FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES KAMPELMAN, GIVES NEWS CONFERENCE

LD071241 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1222 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Geneva, 7 Aug (TASS) -- E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister met here today with representatives of the delegations of the socialist countries at the Geneva disarmament conference -- the ambassadors of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Cuba, the Mongolian People's Republic, Poland, Romania, and Czechoslovakia, and also the Vietnam Socialist Republic observer.

This morning he received and talked with Ambassador M. Kampelman, the head of the U.S. delegation at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

E.A. Shevardnadze held a new conference for Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

There was a meeting [time not given] of the aktiv of officials of Soviet institutions in Switzerland at which E.A. Shevardnadze delivered a report.

Discusses Arms Talks

LD071735 Moscow TASS in English 1713 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Geneva August 7 TASS -- "The world today has become a place where issues concerning the interests of a great number of states, let alone the international community, cannot be solved in a [word indistinct] circle," Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said here today. "The Soviet delegation has arrived in Geneva, first of all, to express support for the conference on disarmament," he told a press conference before returning home.

The Soviet minister dwelt upon progress at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space weapons. He compared these talks with a two-engine aircraft which is kept aloft by one engine, the Soviet one. The minister cited as an example the verification problem.

"Once we propose some real methods and ways of verification, our Western partners promptly lose interest in them and find a new area for polemics," Eduard Shevardnadze said.

Other examples can be cited too, the Soviet minister said, "and all of them will confirm that the engine on the American wing of the talks has been malfunctioning so far." Eduard Shevardnadze called on the American side to "bring the second engine to full power as well".

The Soviet Foreign minister reminded that the Soviet Union had handed to the American delegation in Geneva draft agreements on strengthening the regime of the Treaty on Limiting ABM systems, and on implementing the understanding, reached in Reykjavik, on 50 per cent cuts in strategic offensive weapons. At the level of delegations the Soviet side is given to understand that they see positive moments in this.

"However, there is no genuinely businesslike, principled and profound discussion at the talks," he noted.

Eduard Shevardnadze said that the behaviour of the American side in Geneva "caused certain disappointment". It should have made its contribution to the preparation of the meeting between foreign ministers of the USSR and the USA in September, so that "they had something to agree upon."

Today's meeting with the head of the American delegation in Geneva, Mr Kampelman, was devoted to this, the Soviet foreign minister continued. "We have come to the conclusion that, despite many outstanding issues and deep-going differences at the talks, there are certain reserves to make better preparations for the ministers' meeting and achieve significant progress in some issues, especially in the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles and to step up the work of our delegations on strategic offensive weapons and space," Eduard Shevardnadze said.

'Common Sense Will Prevail'

LD071931 Moscow TASS in English 1853 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Geneva August 7 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, answered correspondents' questions at a press conference here today.

In answer to the question what kind of a mutually acceptable solution on medium-range missiles could be with as view to getting out of the impasse brought on by the Pershing-1A missile issues, Eduard Shevardnadze said that the missiles should be eliminated.

"All sober-minded people should agree with this", he said. "The proposed idea that the Federal Republic of Germany could eliminate its Pershing-1A missiles if the Soviet Union, for its part, reduced part of battlefield missiles, is beside point, since these are different classes of weapons. The point in question now is to eliminate medium- and shorter-range missiles, whereas the offered class of arms belongs to tactical weapons. This is a separate issues, a separate problem, and a separate subject for negotiations."

"As regards space weapons", the Soviet minister emphasized, "there are so far very few elements of mutual understanding at the talks with the United States. There is a fundamental and deep divergence of opinion. The Soviet Union comes out against the development of space arms and is in favour of keeping outer space weapons-free, while the United States wants to implement its 'Stars Wars' programme at all costs".

The minister of foreign affairs of the USSR pointed out the fact that the conference on disarmament on Thursday the Soviet Union had tabled some proposals with a view to enhancing the role, authority, prestige and effectiveness of the conference.

"Most participants in the conference in principle approve of such an approach. People who regard it approvingly are those who are vitally interested in securing serious successes on disarmament issues and, first of all, in the cause of eliminating nuclear weapons, nuclear arsenals, chemical weapons, and other types of weapons of mass destruction. Of course, there are also those who disagree with such approach."

"But I think, common sense will prevail. The potentialities of the conference are really great", Eduard Shevardnadze said.

Answering a question about the situation in the Persian Gulf area, the minister pointed out that the situation there was unpredictable and very complex.

"At present everyone should particularly see to it that the mission of the U.N. secretary-general be a success. This is the first point".

"The second point is that it is essential to pool the efforts of all countries and all peoples to eliminate the prime cause of the situation which has taken shape in the Iran-Iraq conflict".

"The third point is that it is necessary to seek the elimination of military confrontation in the Gulf, which manifests itself in the presence of ships and other types of armaments of great powers, particularly those of the United States. The number of these grows with every passing day, and the situation has really become explosive."

Eduard Shevardnadze pointed out with satisfaction that the idea of convening an international Middle East peace conference meets with increasing understanding.

"This is gratifying", he said, "and one should not add utterly different issues to this such as, in particular, the question of diplomatioc relations between the USSR and Israel or the departure of Soviet Jews abroad."

Pershings Block INF Accord

AU061024 Paris AFP in English 1018 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Geneva, August 6 (AFP) -- The siting of intermediate and short range (INF) nuclear weapons in West Germany is the main obstacle to disarmament talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said here Thursday. "The Soviet people will never accept West Germany becoming a nuclear power," he said at the United Nations disarmament conference. Mr. Shevardnadze said the 72 Pershing 1-A missiles in West Germany, jointly controlled by Bonn and Washington, were the main obstacle to a Soviet-U.S. agreement on the banning of INF missiles.

"If, as certain American leaders and their West German partners pretend, the Pershing 1-As belong to a third country, let us ask once again why and with what right does West Germany have nuclear weapons," Mr Shevardnadze said. He said that if West Germany had nuclear weaponry in its own arsenal it would be creating a "world political crisis." It would jeopardise the Soviet-U.S. talks and create a situation where "our allies could demand the installation of similar systems on their territory and the Soviet Union could respond to their demand," said Mr. Shevardnadze.

Washington maintains that the Pershing rockets are West German, while the United States has control over their nuclear warheads.

'A 72-Zero Option'

AU061144 Paris AFP in English 1122 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Geneva, August 6 (AFP) -- Mr. Shevardnadze said that it was impossible to have "nuclear weapons belonging to no one", adding, "who owns the fuel is unimportant." Either the Pershing 1-As belong to the United States, and should be included in the INF negotiations, or they belong to West Germany, which "has neither the legal nor moral right to possess them", because of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, he added.

And he warned that Moscow might have to review the present world strategic position under the threat of possession of nuclear arms by a country 'where even today the crazy slogans of revanchism can be heard."

Mr. Shevardnadze said that retaining the Pershings would amount to a 72-Zero-option instead of the "double-zero" option for the elimination of nuclear missiles in Europe that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had accepted. He rejected the argument that the Pershings were to counter Soviet supremacy in conventional forces, saying the Soviet leadership was constantly calling for the opening of negotiations to end imbalance.

Noting that Moscow had made such concessions as not including the British and French nuclear deterrents in the INF negotiations, and admitting that the Soviet Union had a greater number of intermediate missiles, Mr. Shevardnadze said that on the settlement of the Pershing dispute depended not only an INF accord but the resolution of the main problem, "the elimination of strategic offensive weapons and the prevention of the arms race spreading into space."

The Soviet foreign minister also said that with regard to a future international ban on chemical weapons Moscow accepted the need for the principle of inspections on demand without right of refusal to ensure the accord was respected.

Returns to Moscow

LD071601 Moscow TASS in English 1539 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of foreign affairs, returned from Geneva to Moscow Today.

He was met at the airport by Nikolay Slyunkov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Anatoliy Kovalyev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and other officials.

KAMPELMAN'S RESPONSE TO SHEVARDNADZE SPEECH EXAMINED

LD071832 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva, said in a television interview for CBS and NBC that he is not worried about the fact that Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze did not resist the temptation to engage in a bit of propaganda in his speech in Geneva: I don't take it too seriously, Kampelman said.

Here is a latest news commentary: Viktor Levin is at the microphone.

[Levin] What Comrade Shevardnadze said is very serious, and therefore his speech in Geneva has prompted a widespread response. All the world is talking about it today. This speech not only again confirms the sincerity of the intention of the Soviet Union to set about eliminating nuclear arms right now, immediately, but also introduces new, very far-reaching proposals on the establishment of a system of international verification [kontrol] of the maintenance of peaceful space, and on the banning and elimination of chemical weapons. The Soviet minister also stressed the necessity of eliminating U.S. nuclear warheads for the West German Pershing-1A missiles, which is, in essence, the last obstacle in the way of elaborating a Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium-range and operational and tactical missiles on a global basis. He stressed the importance of this problem in a very weighty and convincing manner.

Today, however, while saying quickly that the speech contains interesting and positive points, spokesmen for the United States, and after them for the FRG, are trying to shoot down and destroy the Soviet approach to the warheads for the West German missiles. Kampelman, as the excerpts from his interview testify, is trying to brush off the statement by Comrade Shevardnadze by calling it propaganda, but that's an old trick: When you haven't got anything relevant to say, you hurry to declare that the other side's position is propaganda -- which, in the view of the authors of such declarations, is intended to denote a lack of seriousness.

A White House spoksman was more frank [otkrovennyy]. He said that the United States -- and I quote -- has not, does not and will not consider it possible to include the 72 West German Pershing-1A missiles in an accord. But we aren't talking about the missiles but about the warheads on them. When the White House spokesman was asked directly about the warheads, he repeated: We do not intend to conduct negotiations on the missile systems of third countries. This statement, in essence, confirms how well-founded was the question posed by the Soviet minister: Who actually has any control over nuclear warheads on the Pershing-1A missiles?

Another question of fundamental importance was discussed to a spokesman for the FRG: Does this country have any nuclear weapons among its armaments? Ambassador von Stuelpnagel, head of the FRG delegation at the disarmament conference, replied at this point that the nuclear warheads on the Pershing-1A missiles are not under the control of the FRG -- in which case, why are both Washington and Bonn going on about missile systems of third countries, placing the FRG, essentially, in the same class as Britain and France?

The Soviet Union has unmasked a sordid game and shown how dangerous it is. Those 72 U.S. nuclear warheads are being used as an obstacle on the way to the elimination of 2,000 items of nuclear ammunition. The stubborn repetition of the notorious untruth about systems of third countries and the subterfuges to which Kampelman is resorting cannot conceal the indisputable fact that the United States, together with Bonn, is trying to emasculate the agreement on eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range and operational and tactical missiles on a global basis. This means that they are preventing a step of historic importance: the start of real destruction of highly modern armaments.

SHEVARDNADZE REPLIES TO MEDITERRANEAN NONALIGNED

LD081811 Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS -- The Soviet Union is a staunch supporter of the positive processes in Europe to spread as soon [Moscow TASS in English at 1750 GMT on 8 August transmits a repeat of the item substituting the word "fully" for "soon"] as possible to the Mediterranean as well, says a reply by the Soviet Government to the statement of the Non-Aligned Mediterranean States-Participants in the conference held in the Yugoslav island of Brioni last June, addressed on their behalf by Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to the USSR Government. The reply was issued here today.

The reply which Eduard Shevardnadze, foreign minister of the USSR, sent to Raif Dizdarevic points out that the Soviet Union treats with full undrstanding the non-aligned countries' aspiration to give a decisive impetus to the process of relaxing tension, to make their contribution to lowering the level of military confrontation and enhancing security in the Mediterranean.

This is consonant with the goals of the Soviet foreign policy as well, including in its Mediterranean direction. The specific measures proposed by the non-aligned Mediterranean countries, that aim at achieving military detente in that region which is important to us, are largely congruent with Soviet initiatives.

In the reply the Soviet Government expresses support of the proposal by Malta, Cyprus and Yugoslavia for convening a conference of the CSCE participating states on issues of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean.

The Soviet Union considers it important that all CSCE countries take part in the talks on reducing the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe. The non-aligned Mediterranean countries' interest in not to be left outside this process is understandable.

The Soviet Government's reply confirms the readiness to promote dialogue with these countries in the interests of turning the Mediterranean into a zone of stable peace, goodneighborliness and cooperation.

GERASIMOV GIVES FOREIGN MINISTRY BRIEFING 7 AUGUST

West's 'Competitive Thinking'

LD071332 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1252 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 7 Aug (TASS) -- Speaking at a briefing here today, USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov expressed regret that in the West the viewpoint has become established that the Geneva talks are a sort of trial of strength where the aim is to outplay the opponent. Thus, according to the British SUNDAY TIMES the United States has for a long time compared these talks with a game of chess. In my view, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman said, such a comparison is not only inaccurate but is also essentially damaging. In a game of chess each side has its own interest: To put the king in checkmate. The interests of the sides in that case are strictly opposed to each other. But in the Soviet-U.S. talks on eliminating missiles, where is this king that must be put in checkmate? The Geneva talks are being conducted in order to coordinate interests and to find a mutually acceptable solution to the problem. To proceed from the gladiatorial spirit of chess here, to see only one's own interests, and to ignore the interests of one's partner means to deny the very essence of the talks.

However, competitive thinking continues to dominate in the U.S. position, and the United States is striving to outplay the Soviet side by keeping 72 U.S. warheads on West German missiles. People in the West are writing that these 72 warheads have become a stumbling block at the talks. Rather they are a touchstone of the sincerity of Washington's intentions. It is time that the U.S. side gave up the habit of trying to outplay its partner, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed. Matters should be directed, using sporting terminology, toward a draw, toward a zero on medium-range missiles and on operational and tactical missiles, and further toward a zero on chemical weapons, on space weapons, and so on, up to a zero on nuclear arsenals altogether. Here Eduard Shevardnadze's speech in Geneva opens up new possibilities.

Reagan Peace Plan

LD071419 Moscow TASS in English 1346 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- The U.S. Administration tried to wreck the meeting of the presidents of Central American countries now under way and impose on the Central American countries a thesis that Sandinists must enter into talks with Contras, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov told a briefing today. He noted that the majority of the states in the region, member countries of the Contadora Group and the support group opposed that thesis.

Now the White House put forth the so-called peaceful plan for Central America, directing the Sandinists to abandon cooperation with socialist countries and give up the revolution altogether. All this, of course, is interference aimed at frustrating the settlement in Central America.

The Soviet Union, the Soviet foreign spokesman stressed, favours a just political settlement in this region and an end to American aggression against Nicaragua.

"We wish success to the conference of the presidents of Latin American countries and hope that the solutions, to be adopted, will help promote a lasting peace in Central America."

U.S. Naval Buildup in Gulf

LD071423 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- Answering a question about attitude of the USSR to a military exercise of Iran that ended in the Persian Gulf Zone, Gennadiy Gerasimov, spokesman of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing here today that Iran was situated in the Persian Gulf area and its military exercises there were its own business. However, the presence in the Persian Gulf of a U.S. armada made up of 24 naval ships and the fact that a French armada is on its way there gives rise to the question: Who needs it and for what reason? The region is like a powder keg already, without foreign countries building up their military presence there.

Gennadiy Gerasimov pointed out that a visit to Iran and Iraq of Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, should be regarded as the continuation of Soviet efforts aimed at putting an end to the Iranian-Iraqi war in accordance with a resolution of the U.N. Security Council.

The spokesman of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that there existed a resolution of the U.N. Security Council aimed at settling the Iranian-Iraqi conflict for which all the permanent members of the Security Council had voted.

We pointed out with satisfaction the identity of Soviet and American stands on this problem. This is one of the regional conflicts which prove that the U.S. view of the world as an arena of Soviet-American confrontation is wrong, Gerasimov said. This is a regional conflict, and the USSR and the U.S. could act jointly, the way they did it in the Security Council, for putting an end to it.

Problems at Japanese Port

LD071514 Moscow TASS in English 1413 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- "A hostile atmosphere at the Japanese port of Onahama [name as received] made it impossible for Soviet seamen from the trawlers Maiskoye and Sarychevsk (which called there on the basis of the existing official arrangement between the Soviet and Japanese sides) to have a normal rest", Gennadiy Gerasimov, a spokesman for the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing here today.

The Soviet Embassy in Tokyo made a representation to the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, describing the incident as a violation of universally-accepted international practice of ships' calls at foreign ports and as a disregard for elementary human rights.

"The incident at Onahama", the spokesman pointed out, "is an ugly product of the propaganda campaign hostile to the Soviet Union, the campaign which is being drummed up by certain forces in Japan and about possible harmful consequences of which the Soviet side has repeatedly warned".

"Such actions can only bring about additional difficulties in Soviet-Japanese relations, including the field of fisheries, which would hardly meet the interests of the Japanese side as well."

Wallenberg Confirmed Dead

LD071459 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1432 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 7 Aug (TASS) -- In the mass media of Sweden and other countries, quite a few publications have appeared which repeat claims that Swedish diplomat Raul Wallenberg is alive, and that the Soviet authorities do not want to release him from prison. In this connection, speaking at a press briefing today, USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov stated:

In 1957, after an investigation, the Swedish Government was told that Wallenberg had died in prison in July 1947, presumably as a result of a myocardial infarction. Our attitude to the anxiety of Wallenberg's relatives and of all people interested in his fate is one of understanding. It would be a good thing if the rumors to the effect that he is alive were based in reality. But last year another careful investigation into all circumstances of the case was conducted. It confirmed again that Wallenberg passed away in 1947.

'Espionage Container' Displayed

LD071709 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- In the main hall of the Press Centre of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Soviet and foreign journalists got an opportunity today to have a look at an espionage container, a special camera which is capable of taking 10,000 snaps, and photographs of the railway container before and after intelligence-gathering equipment was taken out of it.

"In January 1986 the Soviet customs service discovered a disguised electronic espionage equipment packed inside a freight container travelling in transit from Japan to the Federal Republic of Germany", Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told those present.

"The equipment, as is evidenced by conclusion by experts, was intended and used for gathering intelligence information along the route from the port of Nakhodka to Leningrad".

In February-March 1986 the authorities of Japan and the FRG were informed through the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs about the uncovered and stopped intelligence-gathering operation.

On July 21, this year, the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs made a repeated representation to Japan and the FRG.

"The Soviet side expected", the Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasised, "that appropriate measures would be taken to inquire into the hostile action against the Soviet Union and that those guilty would be punished. However, no official reply on the essence of our demarches came from the West German side. An oral reply given by a spokesman for the Japanese Embassy in Moscow had it that police authorities that had made an investigation had not succeeded in establishing facts indicating an illegal loading of undeclared objects into the container.

"The container with decorative pots of the Japanese firm San Union, as was stated in the railway bills, was to be brought by sea to Hamburg by the Suest Bachmeier forwarding firm", Genrikh Chmel, head of a department of the Main Board of the State Customs Control under the Council of Minister of the USSR, told journalists. "The firm Ramon Preis was designated as the receiver of the cargo in the FRG."

Then the Soviet customs spokesman read out an excerpt from the expert conclusion which had it that the espionage equipment was designed to determine radiation levels, to discover radiation sources, to record the distance covered by the railway car, and to determine the geographical coordinates of the travelling of the container, and was intended for panoramic photography along the route. The discovered equipment is of U.S. and Japanese origin.

"Many trade and industrial firms of western countries widely engage the services of the USSR Ministry of Trade, the merchant marine and railways for the transportation of their containerized cargoes by rail across the territory of the USSR," said Anatoliy Nazarov, general director of the Soviet Foreign Trade Association Soyuztransit.

His association cooperates with more than 100 forwarding firms, and a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Trade is of the opinion that it is possible to continue to cooperate with them on a mutually beneficial commercial basis: an overwhelming majority of them are businesslike and commercially very decent people.

FURTHER ON BRIEFING, TRADE TIES WITH IRAN

PM081925 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kuvshinnikov report: "They Regard Politics as a Strong-arm Game. From Our Correspondent at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Excerpt] One of the first reactions to the speech by E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister, at the Geneva Conference came from M. Kampelman, who heads the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms. He described the Soviet "global double-zero" proposal as an "effective propaganda stunt."

"If that's a compliment," G. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration, who was chairing a routine briefing, declared, "we are prepared to refuse it." But this is also a sample of the thinking, the viewpoint that regards the Geneva talks as some kind of trial of strength. The U.S. side is now trying to outplay us by equating its 72 warheads on the West German Pershing-1A missiles to zero on the Soviet side. But this is a denial of the very essence of the talks, which are being conducted for the sake of coordinating the two countries' interests and finding a mutually acceptable solution to the problem.

Most of the questions at the briefing concerned the Soviet assessment of the situation surrounding the Persian Gulf and the development of relations between the USSR and the countries of the region. Answering a NEWSWEEK correspondent, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman disclosed that the talks are now taking place regarding the expansion of Soviet-Iranian trade links. They concern the gas pipeline through which Iranian gas used to be sent to Armenia. [paragraph continues]

A few years ago it was shut down by the Iranian side, no one maintained it, and now in order to resume gas deliveries the Iranian section of the pipeline requires repair. The question of railroad communications is being discussed, not only via the existing line across the Caucasus but also via a new line, maybe in Central Asia. Both sides are taking part in the talks in a wish to reach agreement. The question of constructing an oil pipeline from Iran to Soviet Black Sea ports is also being discussed.

Correspondents of KUNA, the Kuwaiti News Agency, and the newspaper AL-WATAN asked the spokesman to comment on the USSR's attitude toward the Iranian military maneuvers in the Persian Gulf. In general this is Iran's affair, G. Gerasimov remarked. But the presence in the Persian Gulf of a U.S. armada of 24 ships as against our 3 minesweepers is bound to raise questions.

The development of the situation in the Persian Gulf, he stressed, proves yet again the incorrectness of the view current in the United States that sees the world as an arena of Soviet-U.S. rivalry. The United States has moved its 24 ships into position, but forgot the minesweepers that are actually needed there... The Soviet Union and the United States could act together in the Persian Gulf, as they acted in the Security Council, in order to end the conflict. [passage omitted]

GERASIMOV VIEWS JARUZELSKI PLAN'S EFFECTS ON TALKS

LD070214 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2040 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Interview with Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov by correspondent Witold Stefanowicz; date and place not given; live or recorded -- Gerasimov speaks in Russian with superimposed Polish translation]

[Text] [Stefanowicz] He is eloquent, witty, and erudite. Sometimes mischievous. The 56-year-old head of the reorganized Department of Information of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Gennadiy Gerasimov, is best known in Poland from press conferences and briefings. He has been interviewed twice by the television news. Together with his main job as spokesman, Gerasimov is also one of the presenters of a weekly review of international events on Soviet television; and it is this role in which we see him now. When asked why he was appointed spokesman, Gerasimov replied: I think they wanted some fresh blood. Diplomats had no training as spokesmen, especially in the past, when it was customary to appear gloomy-faced and answer everything with the word no. His quick-witted remarks circulate around the journalistic community but basically Gennadiy Gerasimov is matter-of-fact, decisive, and, when necessary, hard. This professional journalist, formerly editor-in-chief of the MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI weekly, also studied English, French, and German at the well-known Moscow Institute of International Relations. He worked as a correspondent in Prague and then for 5 years in New York.

Despite everything I have just said, the AP agency calls you a former journalist in referring to your post. What would you say to that?

[Gerasimov] I have noticed by now that the AP agency sometimes makes mistakes, just like REUTER. REUTER, for example, gave my age wrong when they wrote about me. AP also made a mistake because I still keep a finger, if I may say so, on journalism. So, as the Americans say, I have two hats. I put them on according to season: either the journalist's hat or the diplomat's hat.

[Stefanowicz] Let me ask you the first question of the interview, mainly about the new Polish initiative for arms reductions and confidence building in central Europe: the Jaruzelski plan and the Polish Government memorandum. Could you tell us to what extent the Jaruzelski plan could promote the course of the negotiations in Geneva and Vienna?

[Gerasimov] Well, I like the Jaruzelski plan because it introduces into the negotiating process a proposal for stages, for quantification, let us say. We know the word quantum from physics. No process and I think it is also true of the disarmament process -- proceeds smoothly, but through a quantum method, in discrete leaps. The Polish memorandum and the Jaruzelski plan propose decidedly specific stages. We have published this in PRAVDA. These are stages for the reduction of nuclear weapons; stages for the reduction of conventional weapons; stages for the discussion of doctrines and for formulating what is meant by sufficient quantity. This is interesting. We speak of sufficient quantity regarding the United States and the Soviet Union, but so far we have not spoken of sufficient quantity regarding medium-sized states. I think the memorandum and the Jaruzelski plan represents a significant intellectual contribution to this work.

[Stefanowicz] The Jaruzelski plan for the first time presents the idea of guaranteeing the evolution of military doctrines. Do you think this applies exclusively to military doctrines?

[Gerasimov] That is item three. It is a very interesting item. The point is that we, the Warsaw Treaty states, put forward a document on military doctrines at the last session of the Political Consultative Committee in Berlin. We are proposing to the West: Let us sit down and have a discussion. It is not a theoretical matter, but one connected with the art of war. But the NATO countries are refusing to discuss it because they have developed the strategy of flexible response. Our principle of sufficient quantity does not fit in with the strategy of flexible response. That is why they now do not want to discuss this matter. But if we continue to persist, perhaps something might come of it. It is necessary for NATO military thinking and Warsaw Treaty military thinking to get closer to one another. If both sides, as it is emphasized, are proceeding exclusively from defensive positions, then precisely here we have grounds for agreement on military doctrines.

[Stefanowicz] That is right, everything is based on confidence. Could you remind us of the Soviet Government's position on the Jaruzelski plan and our memorandum?

[Gerasimov] We fully support the plan and the memorandum. I have spoken about this at one of my conferences. I hope the Polish press noticed it and published it. So, we welcome it with satisfaction. We generally welcome all fresh initiatives on disarmament.

[Stefanowicz] How, in your view, could the Jaruzelski plan help in realizing the Soviet Union's plan to take mankind into the 21st century without nuclear weapons -- the idea that is called the Gorbachev plan?

[Gerasimov] Our plan is strategic, monumental, and we think practical. The Polish plan, if I may say so, is a tactical, concrete plan, connected with reducing arms in central Europe on both sides. This can, of course, be treated as one of the first steps in realizing our global plan. So I think there is something of a correlation between a part and the whole. I think both plans supplement each other. The Polish one, just like ours, represents a reflection of our philosophy, which always proclaims nuclear disarmament.

[Stefanowicz] Thank you, Gennadiy Ivanovich.

REAGAN, CONGRESS AGREE ON COVERT OPERATIONS RULES

LD072119 Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 8 TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced Friday that he had reached agreement with Congress on new rules of notifying the lawmakers about covert operations carried out by U.S. secret services.

The President will now inform Congress of such operations within two days since the decision on their implementation is taken.

This was a forced step for the White House, prompted by the Iran-Contras scandal.

The White House did not inform Congress of the operation to sell arms to Iran and transfer part of the profits to Nicaraguan contras.

U.S. APPROVES CENTRAL AMERICAN PLAN WITH RESERVATION

LD091125 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 9 TASS -- An agreement on a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Central America was formally approved by U.S. President Reagan a day after it was signed by the heads of five countries of the region.

In a statement circulated by the White House Saturday the head of the U.S. Administration emphasized that he welcomed the allegiance to peace and democracy displayed by the presidents of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and El Salvador. However, he served notice that the U.S. would promote the implementation of the agreement only as long as it is consistent with its own interests and the interests of the Nicaraguan resistance.

Local observers regard this reservation as a clear sign that Washington is going to ignore the appeal of participants in the Guatemala summit meeting to stop outside support for the anti-government groups operating in Central America. According to the UPI news agency, Reagan's statement reaffirmed the resolve to render assistance to the contras who opposed the Nicaraguan Government.

REAGAN'S CENTRAL AMERICAN PEACE PLAN ANALYZED

Ptashnikov Commentary

LD071541 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Station Commentary by Andrey Ptashnikov]

[Text] As has already been reported, U.S. President Reagan has submitted a so-called peaceful settlement plan to the situation in Central America. Here is a commentary; Andrey Ptashnikov is at the microphone:

[Ptashnikov] Before recounting the new plan by the chief of the White House, I would like to draw attention to the actual time it was published.

This was done on the day Reagan and chiefs of the Nicaraguan contras who were staying in Washington met, and also on the very eve of the opening in Guatemala of a meeting among the five Central American states. As is known, the main question on its agenda is the search for ways to find a peaceful solution to the crisis situation in the region. Is this a chance coincidence? Of course not! The U.S. President's plan is clearly aimed at influencing the participants in the Guatemala meeting and at convincing them of the White House's readiness to bring the matter out of deadlock. Not only to convince them but also the U.S. Congress; I guess even the Congress first and foremost. More on that a little later.

So how does the U.S. President see a way to slacken tension in Central America? Literally, a couple of words on his plan: It envisages, in particular, a cease-fire between the contras and the Nicaraguan Armed Forces. Well then: The expediency and need for such a step is in no doubt. But what is required for this? It turns out that in return the Government of Nicaragua must agree to hold new elections in the country, change its foreign policy -- that is make it more acceptable to the White House -- and to numerous other conditions. What else is this but open diktat and gross interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state? Need there be any surprise that the contras chiefs, whom I have already mentioned, received the U.S. plan with delight? As far as Nicaragua is concerned, President Ortega, despite the clear unacceptability of this plan, all the same said he favored urgently commencing U.S.-Nicaraguan talks aimed at working out a just agreement to meet both countries' interests. The White House's answer was a categorical No! It is insisting on a dialogue between the Nicaraguan Government and the chieftains of the Somozist gangs.

One gets the impression that the U.S. President had beforehand hoped that his plan would be rejected. Why? Here we have to return to our conversation about the U.S. Congress.

The fact is that in September it has to review the Administration's request to allocate the contras a further $130-140 million. How do you influence the legislators and make them support this request? The White House opines it has to convince them of its most exceptionally peaceful intentions, and of the intractability and intransigence of Nicaragua. So it is precisely this aim that the new so-called peace plan of the U.S. President to resolve the situation in Central America is pursuing.

PRAVDA's Korionov Commentary

PM071051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 87 Second Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Korionov "Commentator's Column": "New Ploy?"]

[Text] The U.S. President has announced a plan for settling the situation in Central America. It provides in particular for a cease-fire between the Nicaraguan Armed Forces and the contras, the repeal of the state of emergency, and the holding of new elections in Nicaragua and also for the start of talks between the United States, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua on security questions.

If you look at this plan closely, however, you discover that it pursues goals which have very little in common with a genuine solution of the Central American crisis. [paragraph continues]

As is well known, this crisis was caused by the Reagan Administration's attempts to use military means, primarily at the hands of the Somozist counterrevolutionaries, armed and trained by the CIA and the Pentagon, to overthrow the government supported by the Nicaraguan people. Does the new "plan" eliminate this main obstacle on the path of a peaceful settlement of the conflict? In my view it does not.

The U.S. President demands that the Nicaraguan Government agree "to a change in the system of rule" in the country. As if that were not enough, he insists that Nicaragua should modify its foreign policy, primarily in the field of relations with the USSR and Cuba. In brief, something akin to capitulation is being required of Managua and the Nicaraguan people are being required to renounce the gains of the Sandinist revolution paid for by tens of thousands of human lives and incredible sacrifices and deprivation. The President's plan vaguely mentions a "cease-fire," but U.S. Secretary of State Shultz immediately specified that the United States will give its blessing to a cease-fire on the contras' side only if Nicaragua fulfills a number of U.S. conditions, including virtual agreement to "dialogue" with the ringleaders of the armed gangs. Yet the Nicaraguan Government has already repeatedly stated that it does not intend to conduct any talks with the mercenaries.

It is no accident that the ringleaders of the Somozist gangs who, on the eve of the publication of the "plan," were received by both Reagan and Shultz, have welcomed the President's statement with noisy applause. Evidently the calculation is that Nicaragua will reject Washington's plan and the White House will then be able to step up pressure on Congress to compel it to finance the contras on even greater scales.

Managua is maintaining a restrained and dignified stance. President D. Ortega has called on the United States immediately and without any preliminary conditions to initiate direct dialogue on the two countries' proposals for a settlement of the situation in Central America, including both the Nicaraguan initiatives and the plan put forward by Reagan. That is the path which can really lead to peace in this long-suffering region.

SHULTZ REJECTS INVOCATION OF WAR POWERS ACT

LD072010 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 7 TASS -- By TASS Correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko:

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz today told one of the Senate subcommittees that the American Administration rejects the stance of the congressmen, who demand that the 1973 law on war powers be invoked.

The law, representative M. Lowrey said, makes it incumbent on the administration to secure a consent of the Congress within 60 days of the deployment of U.S. Armed Forces in any explosive region of the world. If such consent is not granted, the troops will have to be recalled to the USA. The law was passed to prevent possible military actions by the administration, not sanctioned by the Congress, like the ones that had led to the Vietnam war.

Shultz stated that nothing could be done at present. As for the law, the state secretary alleged, it had nothing to do with the situation in the Persian Gulf because the USA was not going to get involved in the war there.

Meantime, 114 members of the Congress started a legal action at the federal court to make the administration comply with the law on war powers, insisting on the earliest consideration of the suit.

REAGAN MAKES 3D 'PROVOCATIVE' APPEAL ON BERLIN WALL

LD090938 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2112 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Washington, 9 Aug (TASS) -- For the third time in 2 months, U.S. President Reagan has made a provocative appeal to destroy the Berlin Wall which separates the GDR from West Berlin. Having drawn a picture in his Saturday radio speech at the false "horrors" which the Berlin wall allegedly creates, the head of the U.S. Administration did not say anything about the fact that the need to erect border installations in Berlin arose because of subversive actions against the GDR which were actively pursued in the post war period precisely by the United States and its allies. It was they who aspired to use West Berlin as a springboard for provocations against socialist countries.

As local observers note, it is difficult to evaluate the proposal of the head of the present U.S. Administration that the state border protecting the sovereignty of the socialist German state should be dismantled other than as interference in the internal affairs of an independent country.

WEINBERGER ACCUSES IRAN OF MINING PERSIAN GULF

LD100807 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2130 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Washington, 10 Aug (TASS) -- TASS Correspondent Oleg Polyakovsliy reports: the United States has for the first time publicly accused Iran of mining the international shipping ways. Speaking on a Sunday program "Face the Nation" for CBS television, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger stated: "We have destroyed mines at the entry to a Kuwaiti harbor. Iran has these sort of mines." In answer to the question has the United States established that these really are Iranian mines, the defense secretary said: "Yes".

Speaking on the same program Seyyed Raja'i Khorrasani, permanent representative of Iran at the United Nations, denied that Iran is planting mines in international navigation waterways. "We have mines in the Persian Gulf because it is a military zone. The Iraqis plant mines, we plant mines. We do not, however, plant mines in the international navigation waterways," the Iranian representative stated.

The United States defense secretary asserted in the CBS interview that the actions of the United States in the Persian Gulf have the support of "Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and many of our friends in the Persian Gulf." However, he refused to show any kind of facts to substantiate his assertion, using "security" as an excuse. He also said that the United States has no plans to withdraw its naval ships from the Persian Gulf. However, as the presenter of "Face the Nation" noted, there will soon be 24 U.S. ships in that region. "Not since Vietnam times has there been such a concentration of U.S. Armed Forces as there is now in the Persian Gulf, and it seems there is no end to it," she pointed out.

Weinberger's interview was full of attacks on Iran. It was judged here as another step in whipping up anti-Iranian hysteria in the United States with the aim of preparing ground for a military strike against Iran. It is no accident that the CBS presenter said to the Pentagon chief: "The fact remains that you are trying to provoke the Iranians, to do something that we could retaliate militarily and show off our muscles."

DOBRYNIN RECEIVES U.S. BUSINESSMAN 7 AUGUST

LD071724 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin today received James Giffen, president of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council, at the latter's request.

James Giffen noted that in the light of the restructuring drive in the USSR, U.S. business circles showed increased interest in developing Soviet-American trade and economic ties, including new forms. During the conversation, marked by good will spirit, they underlined the importance of persistenly overcoming obstacles on the way to constructive improvement of Soviet-American cooperation, including foreign economic relations, and discussed new possiblities for movement along this path.

PENTAGON PLANS 'MAJOR' SPACE EXPERIMENTS

LD051045 Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

The Pentagon plans at least 13 major space experiments over the next five years effectively to lay the groundwork for the first phase of a limited anti-ballistsic missile defense.

Some of the details are contained in documents prepared by the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO) for a SDI review by senior Defense Department officials.

It is planned, in particular, to launch four to seven Minuteman ballistic misiles from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California and attempt to knock them out by interceptor rockets based at Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific.

THE WASHINGTON POST said the SDIO documents had been described by the organization's spokesman as "providing the first offical glimpse of technologies needed for the inititial phase of a missile defense."

The total cost of the experiments planned under the "Star Wars" program until 1993, according to the paper is estimated at billions of dollars.

DPRK FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH SHEVARDNADZE

LD081519 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, foreign minister of the USSR, today met Kim Yong-Nam, foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), who is on a stop-over in Moscow enroute to the homeland.

Kim Yong-Nam conveyed the personal message by Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, president of the DPRK, to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

During the talk the ministers discussed some urgent matters on the further development of Soviet-Korean relations and also central issues of the situation in the Far East and the Asia-Pacific region as a whole.

The importance of the Soviet Union's new initiatives contained in Mikhail Gorbachev's interview with the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA was noted. The Soviet Union supports the proposals for normalization of the situation in the Korean Peninsula contained in the DPRK government statement of 23 July. The participants in the discussion expressed confidence that the deepening of all-round Soviet-Korean cooperation on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism corresponds to the interests of the peoples of both countries and promotes the strengthening of peace and security in the Far East.

The talk passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

TASS EXAMINES DPRK STATEMENT ON NORTH-SOUTH TALKS

LD071212 Moscow TASS in English 1115 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has issued a statement on the issue of lowering the level of military confrontation and easing tension on the Korean Peninsula, which details related proposals for multilateral talks made last month by the DPRK Government and takes into account the reply to those proposals by South Korea which has suggested, for its part, resuming bilateral dialogue to "discuss outstanding issues" between the north and south of the country.

Greeting in principle the readiness to such dialogue, the DPRK, nonetheless, proceeds from the conviction that the basis for discussing any problems should be the resolution of the issue of disarmament and detente on the Korean Peninsula.

Obviously, it is essential in dealing with these issues to act with regard to reality which is very disquieting. Facing each other on the Korean Peninsula are major contingents of the armed forces of north and south.

The state of confrontation is aggravated by the presence in the south of a considerable contingent of U.S. Armed Forces, which are continuing to build up their military might there and moving newest offensive weapons into South Korea, including delivery vehicles for nuclear munitions already deployed there.

Any accidental occurrence and unpremeditated incident can again ignite the flames of a military conflict which can escalate into a nuclear war.

This must be allowed by no means [sentence as received]. This is why it is vital without delay to bring down the level of military confrontation and achieve balance between the armed forces deployed on the opposite sides of the military demarcation line at the lowest possible level by making phased cuts in the armed forces of north and south, reducing and evacuating American troops, up to, and including, their complete pullout, and eliminating nuclear weapons and American military bases from the south of Korea.

U.S. military presence is an integral and may be the most essential part of the present dangerous confrontation on the Korea Peninsula and a factor for continuously exacerbating it.

This is why the proposals by the DPRK Government appear quite natural and sensible.

The Foreign Ministry of the DPRK said in its statement that it is the United States that is responsible for the build up arms in the south of Korea and the heightening of military confrontation on the peninsula and for this reason no effective measures are possible without its participation.

The DPRK suggests in this connection holding in Geneva or any other convenient place talks between the foreign ministers of the north and south of Korea with the participation of the U.S. secretary of state to examine specific disarmament isues.

It proposes holding a preliminary meeting at deputy minister level in Panmunjom.

If the United States and South Korea consider such a tripartite preliminary meeting unacceptable, the DPRK suggests as an alternative organizing two bilateral meetings -- between north and south and between the DPRK and the United States.

As for the issues of the homeland's reunification, they should obviously the resolved at the negotiating table by the Koreans themselves without any outside interfernce.

The DPRK has demonstrated its active stand and flexible and constructive approach to the issues of promoting disarmament and improving the situation in the Far East and the Asian-Pacific Region as a whole. The ever new peace proposals it has been making have met with increasing understanding and support on the part of the world's nations and the entire international community.

TASS Cites DPRK Statement

LD061820 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Pyongyang August 6 TASS -- The Democratic People's Republic of Korea holds that the USA must take part in the North-South talks on disarmament as well, a spokesman for the DPRK's Foreign Ministry said in a statement released by the Korean Central News Agency today. This statement comes in reaction to the August 3 reply by South Korean Foreign Ministry to the DPRK proposal on disarmament. Seoul offered to hold bilateral talks on this issue.

The disarmament issue should be solved first of all if there is to be a dialogue on the relaxation of tension and the preservation and strengthening of peace on the Korean peninsula, the statement points out. The responsibility for a build-up of armaments in southern Korea and for an exacerbation of military confrontation rests with the USA. Therefore, the question of effective measures on disarmament cannot be solved without the participation of the USA.

In this connection, it is suggested that foreign ministers of northern and southern Korea hold talks in the near future in Geneva or any other convenient place, attended by the U.S. secretary of state, to examine the concrete issues of disarmament. The DPRK proposes to hold a preparatory meeting of deputy ministers in Panmunjom. It can take place in late August this year or any other time agreed by the sides.

If the USA and South Korea regard this three-way meeting unacceptable, the DPRK proposes as an alternative to organise two bilateral meetings, one between the South and North and the other between the DPRK and the USA.

As for other, domestic, problems involved in the reunification of the motherland, they must be discussed at the table of negotiations by representatives of the North and South, the Foreign Ministry Spokesman points out in the statement.

DPRK Proposes Talks With U.S.

PM071403 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "For Detente on the Korean Peninsula"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 6 Aug -- The DPRK believes that the United States should also participate in the North-South talks on disarmament, a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman statement released today by KCNA states. It is the United States which bears the responsibility for the arms buildup in southern Korea and for the exacerbation of military confrontation on the peninsula. That is why any effective measures would be impossible without its participation.

Replying to the recent DPRK proposals to hold multilateral talks on the disarmament question, the statement goes on to point out, South Korea for its part has proposed resuming bilateral dialogue in order to "discuss questions awaiting solution" between the North and the South. Welcoming in principle the readiness for such a dialogue, the DPRK nonetheless proceeds on the basis that the resolution of the disarmament issue and the easing of tension on the Korean peninsula should be the basis for a discussion of any problems.

In this regard it is proposed in the very near future to hold talks in Geneva or another suitable venue between the foreign ministers of North and South Korea with the participation of the U.S. secretary of state, and to examine specific disarmament issues. With a view to preparing for such talks the DPRK is proposing holding a preliminary meeting in Panmunjom at deputy minister level. If the United States and South Korea consider such a tripartite preliminary meeting unacceptable, the DPRK proposes as an alternative organizing two bilateral meetings -- between the North and the South and between the DPRK and the United States.

As for the questions of the unification of the motherland, these must undoubtedly be resolved around the negotiating table by Koreans themselves without outside interference, the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman statement stresses.

U.S., JAPAN COMMENCE AIR 'WAR GAMES'

LD061225 Moscow TASS in English 1202 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Tokyo August 6 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Geronin reports:

A joint Japanese-U.S. air exercise began today in the area of Okinawa Island to practice cooperation between the air forces of the two countries.

The war games, this correspondent was told at the Japan Defense Agency by telephone, involve Japanese Air Force units and U.S. Marine aviation based on the Japanese isles and will continue till August 12.

Japanese-U.S. naval maneuvers, in the meantime, are under way off the Hawaii [as received] and California. Other joint exercises of the armed forces of the two countries are also planned.

Cooperation between Tokyo and Washington in the military field was stepped up visibly following last June's visit to Japan by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger who demanded that this country increase spending on arms and the military buildup.

CPSU DELEGATION VISITS MONGOLIA 29 JUL-5 AUG

PM061529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by A.A. Solovyev, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee General Department, was in Mongolia 29 July through 5 August to exchange experience in line with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the MPRP.

The delegation was received by D. Molomjants, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee.

BIRYUKOV COMMENTS ON ARMACOST VISIT TO PAKISTAN

LD041657 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 4 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

Summing up the results of his two-day talks with Pakistani leaders, Michael Armacost, U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs, has stated in Islamabad that they were frank and useful.

He did not specify, however, for whom and for what the talks were useful. Washington commissioned its emissary to demand at the talks that proof be given to him right there that Pakistan does not have an atomic bomb. It was emphasized even before Armacost arrived in Islamabad that the U.S. would be compelled to stop rendering assistance to a country violating the restrictions imposed in accordance with the treaty on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The Subcommittee on International Operations of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives of U.S. Congress even recommended the Administration to freeze for 105 days the rendering of military-economic assistance to Pakistan in connection with new facts showing the persistent intention of Pakistan to acquire nuclear weapons of its own. It was pointed out in this connection in the U.S. Department of State that proof would be demanded from Pakistan which would include on-site inspection of nuclear facilities and other measures.

As for Pakistan, U.S. news agencies report from Islamabad that the Pakistani authorities turned down all the claims and demands of Washington. Specifically, Islamabad refused to open its secret nuclear program for international inspection. So far as the recommendation of the congressional subcommittee on freezing U.S. aid to Pakistan is concerned, Sahibzada Yaqub Khan, minister of foreign affairs of Pakistan, even threatened that if Americans really took this step it would be fraught with tragic consequences for the common goals of the two countries.

It is easy to understand what is meant by 'common goals'. Armacost himself reaffirmed at this press conference in Islamabad that he had come to Pakistan to hold talks on Afghanistan. The UPI news agency that interviewed him confirmed that Pakistan was regarded by Washington as a 'decisive ally' and as a secret channel for delivering Western weaponry to Afghan counterrevolutionary groups who entrenched themselves in Pakistan and staged from there bandit raids on Afghanistan. Armacost's phrase that the Reagan administration hopes to balance U.S. concern against that of Pakistan sounds meaningful in this context.

The representative of the administration actually made it clear in Islamabad that the U.S. intended to continue an undeclared war against Afghanistan together with the Pakistani regime and to increase its scope. THE WASHINGTON POST published an article several days ago in which it pointed out quoting American and Pakistani officials that any significant change in the assistance program will lead to the reconsideration of Pakistan's role in combat operations against Soviet troops in Afghanistan and, perhaps, its stand in relations with Iran and the Soviet Union. This is what Washington cannot permit.

For this reason Washington seems to be ready to turn a blind eye to Pakistan's nuclear preparations and to trade military-economic assistance to its 'decisive ally' in the near east for Islamabad's services in the putting into practice in that region of U.S. neo-globalist strategic plans.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER VISITS KABUL

LD302127 Moscow TASS in English 2003 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul July 30 TASS -- A special reporter for the U.N. Commission on Human Rights Felix Ermacora arrived in Kabul today. His visit to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is undertaken as part of the efforts to prepare a report on human rights in Afghanistan for the 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly.

On the same day, he was received by Afghanistan's Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil. The April Revolution, the minister said, aims to root out illiteracy and poverty, to eliminate economic backwardness and social injustice in the country. However, the revolutionary changes have met with stubborn resistance from the forces of internal and external reaction, who unleashed an undeclared war against the republic. 'Abdul Wakil cited figures which testified to the great sacrifices made by the Afghan people during the war and great economic damage.

In obtaining conditions, the minister continued, the only alternative to the continued bloodshed is offered by the policy of national reconciliation, supported by all true patriots.

'Abdul Wakil said further that Afghanistan invariably and consistently supported the U.N. Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and respected the noble goals of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. The responsible Afghan organisations were instructed to give assistance to the representative of the commission on human rights.

Felix Ermacora also met with the representatives of Afghanistan's Justice Ministry and the Special Revolutionary Court.

PRAVDA SEES BREAKING OF 'CORDON' ROUND SYRIA

PM041342 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Aug 87 Second Edition p 5

[Yuriy Glukhov "Commentator's Column": "Breaking the Cordon"]

[Text] Beirut -- It has been officially announced in Bonn that the FRG is lifting the freeze on economic aid to Syria. At a recent meeting in Copenhagen representatives of the EEC countries adopted a decision to lift the ban on political contacts with Damascus at the highest level. Washington's envoy V. Walters recently visited the Syrian capital, after which reports appeared on the forthcoming return of the U.S. ambassador there.

Those are the facts of recent days. They indicate that the wall of isolation which the West stubbornly tried to create around the Syrian Arab Republic is collapsing. Let us recall that the hostile campaign was started by London at the end of last year. Britain broke off diplomatic relations with Syria, accusing it of "connivance with international terrorism." Other Western countries joined in the economic and political sanctions against Damascus. The game was to isolate Syria, make it an outcast, and exclude it from participation in international and regional affairs.

And now the initiators of the anti-Syrian campaign are acknowledging their own bankruptcy. Syria's political weight has not lessened, but increased. It is determined by the principled approach to the resolution of the Near East conflict, the refusal to agree to separate deals or capitalate under pressure from the Israeli aggressors and their accomplices, and the consistent defense by Damascus of the Palestinian people's rights.

As the Syrian press and public note, the growth of Syria's prestige is also associated with the further development of its relations with the socialist countries, first and foremost the Soviet Union. The joint flight by a Soviet-Syrian space crew met with a considerable response, especially in the Arab countries. Soviet-Syrian relations, both on earth and in space, the newspaper TISHRIN notes, are notable for their equal, mutually advantageous nature. As the SYRIA TIMES wrote, the strengthening of Soviet-Syrian cooperation reflects the weighty part played by the two countries in making persistent efforts to establish lasting peace in a region which the aggressors have turned into a seat of tension.

The growth of Damascus' international prestige was also promoted by its persistent efforts to stabilize the situation in Lebanon and promote the attainment of national reconcilation and unity in that country.

The West's economic and political sanctions against Syria were also designed to exacerbate internal difficulties in the country and promote outbreaks of dissatisfaction and a domestic political crisis. On the whole these calculations failed.

The failure of the boycott policy has not, however, changed imperialism's strategic goals. Israel and its western partrons continue to advocate pushing through separate deals, alienating Syria from the socialist countries, and changing the course it pursues. But as the Syrian public notes, the breaking of the blockade is a victory for that very course, the course of progress and independence.

JERICHO-2, ISRAELI POSITION IN MIDEAST DISCUSSED

TA311417 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1630 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Official Israeli elements and the media have recently been paying very close attention to Radio Peace and Progress' Hebrew-language broadcasts. We believe that the Soviet public's general attitude toward Israel and its polcies were assessed objectively. The statement by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres that Israel does not harbor hostile sentiments toward the Soviet Union is also pleasing. At the same time, we would like to recall the background of the dispute: the testing of a new Israeli missile, the Jericho-2. International sources have pointed out that the missile can carry a nuclear load not only as far as most of the Arab capitals, but also to the southern regions of the Soviet Union. There appears to be a sound basis for the belief that the U.S. military establishment has already drawn lines and arrows on the maps, indicating routes from Israeli launching sites to targets in our country.

It would likewise be worthwhile to take into account that the United States, which is currently engaged in negotiations with the Soviet Union on the removal of medium- and short-range missiles, nevertheless wishes to maintain some of these missiles wherever they are deployed. Thus, for example, the Pershing-1A missiles have been handed over to the FRG, and one must not rule out the possibility that the development and testing of the Jericho-2 missiles should also be seen in this context.

The charges emanating from the political echelon in Israel that our broadcasts carry a threat to Israel are, however, baseless. We are the broadcasting station of Soviet public organizations. We do not issue threats or air official declarations. Our goal is to bring to the attention of our listeners the positions of the Soviet public on various international issues. This also applies, to a lesser degree, to our Hebrew-language broadcasts, in which we pay special attention to the development of the situation in the Middle East and the policies of Israel's official circles.

This is our stand on the issue: We support the struggle of the Arab nations for the return of the territories conquered by Israel in 1967 and want to see the Palestinians' right to self-determination guaranteed. These are the principles of our policy, which on the whole corresponds to the UN resolutions regarding the Middle East. We condemn the Israeli leaders' expansionist policy and the aggressive acts against the Arabs, and we also help the Arabs -- the victims of this aggression -- through political, diplomatic, and economic measures, including the supply of weapons to these countries.

This does not mean, however, that the Soviet Union takes a hostile position toward Israel or that it supports Israel's elimination. We support Israel's existence as a sovereign state existing in peace and security. No one could accuse us of changing our policy toward Israel as a state. When the partition [of Palestine] was debated in the United Nations, we voted in favor of the establishment of the Jewish State of Israel, alongside an Arab state, in Eretz Yisra'el. This is the position we hold now, too. We have nothing in common with Arab world extremists, who demand the liquidation of Israel. We believe that this is an unjust and unrealistic position, but we also believe that Israel must conduct a peaceful policy toward its neighboring countries.

The Soviet approach toward the solution of the Middle East problems is founded on the belief that a stable settlement between Israel and the Arabs can only be reached on a just basis. That is why we are asking: Has the time not come for some soul-searching? Is it not time to abandon the deplorable policy of territorial conquest? Is it not time to begin concrete and sincere activity toward a comprehensive and just solution in the Middle East? Many things depend on a positive response to this question: recognition of israel, a secure peace in the Middle East, and an improvement in the status of the Jewish state in the international arena. We sincerely hope that in the end Israel's forces for relialism will gain the upper hand, and that Israel will take the road to peace with its neighbors.

PRAVDA PUBLISHES SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE COMMUNIQUE

PM071154 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 87 Second Edition pp 1, 4

["Joint Soviet-Mozambique Communique" -- PRAVDA headlaine]

[Text] Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, was in the Soviet Union 3 through 6 August on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

The Mozambique head of state and the high-ranking party and state delegation accompanying him were accorded a cordial welcome and hospitality, testifying to the indissoluble bonds of friendship and solidarity between the two countries' peoples, parties, and governments.

J. Chissano laid wreaths at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin Wall. In Moscow and Kiev he saw a number of the historic sights and visited industrial and agricultural enterprises.

During the visit M.S. Gorbachev and J. Chissano met, and Soviet-Mozambique talks were held in a spirit of comradely mutual understanding.

Taking part in the talks were:

On the Soviet side: M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister; P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister; A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and N.K. Dybenko, USSR ambassador to Mozambique;

On the Mozambique side: J. Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of Mozambique; M. Matsinhe, member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee Party Control Committee, and minister of security; J. Carrilho, secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee; P. Mocumbi, secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and foreign minister; A. Macamo, member of the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly and general secretary of the Organization of Mozambique Working People; A. Kupela [as published],member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and general secretary of the Organization of Mozambique Youth; P. Odalla [as published], member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and secretary of state for national defense; A. Osman, minister of finance; J. Kachamila, minister of mineral resources; J. Beirao, deputy minister of education; A. Zandamela [as published], deputy minister of agriculture; F. Lukanga [as published], chief of the Mozambique Foreign Ministry socialist countries administration; and G. Sengo, Mozambique ambassador to the USSR.

The talks offered an opportunity to exchange opinions on the political and socioeconomic situation in the two countries and the state of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Mozambique, and also on fundamental questions of the contemporary international situation.

J. Chissano spoke of the activity in progress in Mozambique to implement the measures elaborated by the Sixth Frelimo Party Central Committee Plenum and the 15th session of the Mozambique People's Assembly in accordance with the principles of the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress, measures aimed at resolving the problems facing the Mozambique people. Emphasis was placed on the dual nature of the efforts being made by the Mozambique people to put into practice the program of economic restoration and the objectives of the struggle against the armed bandits.

J. Chissano expressed gratitude to the Soviet people for the assistance they give to the People's Republic of Mozambique in implementing the program of economic restoration and the program of emergency aid, and in protecting its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

M.S. Gorbachev spoke of the CPSU's activity in putting into practice the course of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, the 27th party congress, and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, restructuring and renewing all spheres of Soviet society's life and of the course of the restructuring itself and its results and complexities. Touching on international aspects of the restructuring, he noted that its implementation moves socialism, and therefore the overal potential of the forces of peace and progress, to a qualitatively new level. Through the restructuring, the CPSU and the Soviet people are continuing the cause of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which opened a new era in mankind's history in 1917.

The Soviet leader declared the Soviet Union's unchanging solidarity with the struggle being waged by the Mozambique people in defending their sovereignty and independence, and spoke of the support for the Frelimo Party's course aimed at resolving these tasks.

The present state of cooperation between the two states was examined. The sides expressed satisfaction with the positive nature of its development, and reaffirmed the need to further strengthen and expand Soviet-Mozambique relations in various spheres, including strengthening Mozambique's defense capability. The close friendly ties between the CPSU and the Frelimo Party, which determine the harmonious development of relations between our peoples and states, were particularly singled out. Specific measures to increase the effectiveness of bilateral cooperation in all spheres and its practical return were also discussed.

The participants in the talks noted with great satisfaction the events held on 31 March 1987 in connection with the 10th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Mozambique, which is the firm basis of the two states' relations.

The Soviet side reaffirmed its firm resolve to continue to grant all-around assistance to countries and peoples fighting for freedom and social progress, including Mozambique.

The sides expressed satisfaction at the coincidence of the two countries' positions on the main international problems and declared their desire to continue with each other in order to solve them.

Taking into account the present complex situation in the world, they called on all the forces of peace and progress to unite in the struggle to prevent nuclear catastrophe, strengthen international security, and safeguard the peoples' inalienable rights to independent development.

The two sides stressed the important role of the OAU as an instrument in the African peoples' struggle to strengthen their political and economic independence and in the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, and apartheid.

They welcomed the initiative of the Nonaligned Movement in setting up the fund for aid to the "Front Line" States and liberation movements of southern Africa.

The policy of destabilization pursued by the apartheid regime with regard to the "Front Line" states, first and foremost Mozambique and Angola, was condemned, and support was reaffiremd for the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, headed by the ANC [African National Congress] and SWAPO [Southwest African People's Organization].

The two countries' leaders once again voiced their condemnation of the maneuvers and policy of blackmail carried out by South African racist regime with a view to delaying the granting of independence to Namibia, making use of the puppet Namibian parties, and also trying to link Namibia's independence to the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalists from Angola.

The Soviet Union and Mozamnique agree that peace and stability in southern Africa can only be achieved on the conditin that South Africa stops its direct and neighboring countries, UN Security Council resolution 435 is fulfilled without reservation, and the inhuman apartheid system is eliminated.

Concerning the situation in the Near East, the two countries' leaders came out in favor of a just solution of this problem by means of collective efforts, stressing the need to convene an international conference under UN auspices with all interested sides participating on an equal basis.

The sides favored a political settlement of the situation in Central America through the efforts of the region's countries themselves wihout any oitside interference and threats. In this connection they confirmed their solidarity with the Nicaraguan people waging a struggle to strengthen their independence and sovereignty.

The Soviet Union and Mozambique advocate the peaceful solution of problems existing in Southeast Aisa by organizing dialogue among all the states situated there on the basis of respect for their independence and territorial integrity.

The Soviet Union and Mozambique stressed the need for the speediest end to the war between Iran and Irag and the solution of disputes by means of political talks. They declared their support for efforts to implement the 20 July 1987 UN Security Council Resolution 598 on the Iran-Iraq conflict.

The sides expressed a high opinion of the policy of national reconciliation conducted by the DRA.

They confirmed their support for the nonaligned countries' proposal on turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace free from nuclear weapons and advocate the immediate convening of an international conference on the Indian Ocean.

During the talks emphasis was placed on the importance of establishing a new international economic order on the basis of equality and justice, which would be a contribution to creating an all-embracing system of international security.

The sides agreed to act vigorously in the United Nations an all-embracing solution to the most important economic problems -- overcoming backwardess, resolving questions of the developing countries' foreign debts, and creating a system of international economic security.

They noted the relationship that exists between disarmament and development and the great positive significance of the possible use of the financial and material resources currently spend on arms for the purposes of the peoples economic and social progress.

The Mozambican side welcomed the Soviet Union's steps to improve the world situation, in particular its program to eliminate nuclear weapons and other types of mass destruction weapons before the year 2000, and to prevent an arms race in space. Mozambique gave its backing to the recent Soviet proposal on the complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in Europe and Asia which can lead to the easing of international tension and the elimination of the danger of a nuclear catastrophe.

The sides expressed deep satisfaction with the positive results of the visit by J. Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo party and president of Mozambique, to the Soviet Union, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and mutual understanding. They believe that this visit was an important contribution to strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation between the Mozambican and Soviet peoples and between the Frelimo party and the CPSU.

Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo party and president of Mozambique, expressed appreciation for the warm, fraternal reception and hospitality he and his accompanying delegation had experienced in the Soviet Union. He invited CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev to pay an official friendly visit to Mozambique. The invitation was accepted with thanks and that date will be agreed on through diplomatic channels.

Chissano Departs Kiev for Home

LD070825 Moscow TASS in English 0736 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Kiev August 7 TASS -- Joaquim Chissano, president of the party, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, left the Ukrainian capital today.

He was staying in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

Chissano Cables From Aircraft

LD071410 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Joaquim Chissano, chairman of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, has sent a telegram to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, from on board his plane. In the telegram, on behalf of the Mozambican party and state delegation, he expressed sincere gratitude for the hospitality shown during the delegation's visit to the USSR.

Today Joaquim Chissano left Kiev for his homeland.

THREE ZAIREAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS EXPELLED

LD081022 Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS -- Zaire's charge d'affairs to Moscow has been summoned to the USSR Foreign Ministry today and a resolute protest was expressed to him in connection with the totally unfounded expulsion of three members of the staff of the U.S. Embassy [as received] in Kinshasa on July 31.

The Soviet side has described the said move by the Zaire authorities as an unfriendly, provocative action vis-a-vis the Soviet Union, the whole responsibility for whose inevitable negative consequences is totally borne by the Zaire side.

The Zaire charge d'affairs was told that the Soviet side had found it necessary to demand that Zaire Embassy Counsellor Emani Mata Likambe and two technical workers of the Embassy Bessimo Bossama and Ngoi Katende leave the Union within 48 hours.

YAKOVLEV RECEIVED BY HONECKER, OTHER GDR LEADERS

LD071727 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Berlin August 7 TASS -- A meeting between Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is currently in the German Democratic Republic (GDR) for a rest, and Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), chairman of the GDR's State Council, was held in Berlin today.

During the conversation which was held in an atmosphere of comradeship and mutual understanding, Aleksandr Yakovlev spoke of the results of the June (1987) plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, the plenary meeting which is of fundamental importance for accelerating economic reorganization, for deepening democracy and renewing all aspects of the life of Soviet society.

Erich Honecker, having stated the SED's support for the course of deep-going socio-economic transformations in the USSR and for the decisions of the June plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, related the efforts being made by the communists of the GDR to implement the decisions of the Eleventh Congress of the SED, the development of the GDR's national economy, and achievements in the social sphere.

There was an exchange of views on ways for further development of relations between the USSR and the GDR, between the CPSU and the SED as well as on a number of topical international issues.

Aleksandr Yakovlev also had friendly meetings with Hermann Axen, Kurt Hager, and Egon Krenz, members of the Political Bureau, secretaries of the SED Central Committee.

Meets Hager 6 August

For GDR Media coverage of talks in East Berlin between Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, see the German Democratic Republic section of the 7 August East Europe DAILY REPORT.

POLAND'S GWIAZDA VISITS MOSCOW 7 AUGUST

LD072042 Warsaw PAP in English 1847 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 7 Vice-Premier Wladyslaw Gwiazda paid a one-day working visit to Moscow today. Also today he met with co-chairman of the Polish-Soviet Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation, Vice-Premier Aleksey Antonov to determine the most important economic and organisational principles of founding in nearest future the first joint industrial enterprises.

The sides also assessed the state of immediate cooperation between Polish and Soviet enterprises and agreed concrete undertakings facilitating the further development of this form of cooperation.

The talk also focused on other issues of current economic cooperation between Poland and the Soviet Union.

THATCHER RECEIVES GORBACHEV MESSAGE ON GULF ISSUE

LD091825 London Press Association in English 1454 GMT 9 Aug 87

[By Tom McMullan, Press Association diplomatic correspondent]

[Excerpt] The government was today staying tight-lipped about Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reply to a message from Mrs Thatcher seeking support for a bid to reduce tension in the Gulf.

Whitehall aides said the Soviet reply arrived over the weekend, but refused to give any details of what it contained.

Mrs Thatcher has sent a number of letters to world leaders over the past week in an attempt to win united international support for a United Nations resolution calling for a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq. [passage omitted]

SOVIET NAVAL EXERCISE OFF NORWAY REPORTED

PM070927 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 4 Aug 87 p 14

[Liv Hegna report: "Soviet Naval Exercise Off Norwegian Coast"]

[Text] Over the weekend a Soviet naval exercise began in northern waters. In all, nine large Soviet surface ships are taking part. A naval force of four Sovremennyy class destroyers has grouped northwest of Andoya and is practicing offensive attack operations in these waters. The other group of ships is in waters between the Norwegian mainland and Bjornoya and is engaged in simulated antisubmarine warfare.

The North Norway Defense Command has told AFTENPOSTEN that "a certain number of submarines" are also taking part in the exercise. It is usual that information about the exact number and class of enemy submarines is withheld, since it could easily confirm what methods there are for acquiring such information.

In the last few days there has been much aircraft activity in the area. At the weekend alone Norwegian pursuit aircraft made 12 visual identifications of Soviet aircraft. These included May antisubmarine aircraft, Badger maritime attack aircraft, and Bear reconnaissance aircraft.

The Sovremennyy destroyer group has considerable antisubmarine capacity but also represents a major danger to surface ships and aircraft. Sovremennyy class destroyers carry SN-22 and SA-N-7 surface-to-air missiles.

The group of ships between Finnmark and Bjornoy consists of three Kresta class cruisers, one Kravak class frigate, and an Udaloy class destroyer. The North Norway Defense Command told AFTENPOSTEN that Kiev class aircraft carriers have not yet been observed in the area. It is still too early to say whether this exercise can be compared with the major Soviet naval exercise that took place in 1985.

The exercise which began over the weekend is restricted at present to northern waters. Past exercises have pushed the "line" for Soviet naval exercises ever further south. Analyses which the armed forces are carrying out do not as yet say anything about the further development of "Summer Ex 87."

Defense Officials Interpret Exercise

PM071515 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 5 Aug 87 p 41

[Liv Hegna report: "Defense Forces Shadow Warships"]

[Text] At the newly equipped and ultramodern command center deep underground near Bodo the Soviet naval exercise in northern waters is being followed closely. Maritime patrol aircraft from squadron 333 on Andoya are shadowing the two groups of warships which have been involved in the exercise off northern Norway since the weekend.

Four Sovremennyy class destroyers were obviously ordered Tuesday to escort seven Soviet merchant vessels northward. This group seems therefore to be playing the role of a NATO group on its way to northern Norway with reinforcements.

AFTENPOSTEN has been given confirmation by sources at the North Norway Defense Command that analyses of the exercise must simply be seen as assumptions for the time being. The group could just as well be playing the role of an aircraft carrier and escorting group, it was said. Until a major naval exercise in 1985 it was not known that the Soviet Union held exercises involving a large number of submarines and surface vessels as protection for aircraft carriers. But it is assumed that it is necessary to test such tactics in good time before the really big Soviet aircraft carriers come into service in the early nineties.

North Norway Defense Command Chief of Staff Colonel Alv Midthun told AFTENPOSTEN that the limited extent of this year's Soviet naval exercise has meant that the armed forces have not needed to mount operations over and above routine.

The Sovremennyy class destroyers together with the merchant vessels were probably on their way Tuesday to their home bases on the Kola peninsula. The same was true of the Krivak class frigate and the Udaloy class destroyer which had been engaged in exercises in the waters between Finnmark and Bjornoya.

Navy Operations Center Chief Commodore Oystein Hoel said that the three Kresta class cruisers are still about 60 nautical miles north of Berlevag.

Hoel also said that there had been no reason to recall people from leave or ask the operations center's personnel to change their leave plans because of the exercise. "It looks as if the whole thing is coming to an end," he said, adding that it is not unusual for the Russians to hold smaller exercises around August time.

Commodor Hoel gave the Russian warships good grades: "They are behaving correctly. They are in international waters where they have every right to be, and they are following all the rules," he said.

Soviet naval exercises in northern waters are thought to be exercises in forward defenses to protect the base complex on the Kola peninsula and the operational area of the Soviet Union's strategic submarines. The Soviet Union seeks to achieve such forward defenses by making sure of control over the Norwegian Sea. By doing so the Soviet Union will also establish a better point of departure for offensive operations in the North Atlantic. In recent years lines of defense seem to have been pushed further south in the Norwegian Sea.

IZVESTIYA SEES 'CONTRADICTORY' FRENCH ATTITUDE ON IRAN

PM071445 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko dispatch: "France-Iran: Contradictory Position"]

[Text] Several police vans completely block off part of the wide Avenue Iana round the Iranian Embassy building in Paris.

Police dressed in dark-blue bullet-proof vests with automatic weapons at the ready stand on duty at the metal barrier. I spoke with two policemen in civilian clothes. They acknowledged that they were tired from the round-the-clock vigil: The blockade of the embassy has now been going on for several weeks.

To remind you of the gist of the matter: The authorities are demanding that Vahid Gorji, an interpreter at the Iranian Embassy, appear before Examining Magistrate Gilles Boulouque and give testimony in the case of terrorist acts committed in Paris about 1 year ago. The Iranians refuse. The French are allowing only the Iranian charge d'affaires to leave the embassy. The rest are obliged to remain as hostages inside the building.

As a countermeasure Iran has blockaded the French Embassy in Tehran and demanded that the French consul, J.P. Torri, appear before an Islamic court on a charge of espionage and assisting enemies of the Khomeyni regime to cross the border. After a series of incidents the two countries, as is well known, broke off diplomatic relations, but embassy staffers are unable to leave the confines of their embassies.

The deteriorating relations are not restricted just to the "embassy war." Paris has accused Tehran of attacking the ship "Ville d'Anvers" in the Persian Gulf. Repeating Washington's thesis that the Persian Gulf is a sphere of Western and, in particular, French vital interest, Paris has dispatched the aircraft carrier "Clemenceau" with 40 aircraft on board and an escort of 2 warships which are presently in the Red Sea and Gulf of Oman are on their way to join them.

In an interview given to the French weekly LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR French Defense Minister Andre Giraud declined to say what the aim of sending the armada there was. As commentators point out, Paris is sending roughly one-fourth of its naval forces to the Persian Gulf.

The facts point up the contradictory nature of the French position. On the one hand, Paris says the problems of the Persian Gulf should not be resolved outside the UN framework, while, on the other, it is sending its fleet there, which will exacerbate the situation even more.

STATEMENT ISSUED ON FRG TRADE UNION OFFICIALS' VISIT

PM061015 Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Aug 87 p 3

["Joint Statement on Visit to USSR by Delegation of German Trade Union Federation (FRG)" -- TRUD headline]

[Text] An official delegation of the German Trade Union Federation [DGB] Federal Board headed by E. Breit, DGB chairman, was in the USSR 25 through 31 July 1987 at the invitation of the AUCCTU. The delegation included I. Blettel and H. Teitzel, members of the DGB Federal Board Executive Committee, and E. Kristoffersen, chief of the DGB Foreign Department.

The DGB delegation was received by A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. In the course of the meeting questions of mutual interest were discussed. V.S. Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, took part in the conversation. Talks took place between the DGB delegation and a Soviet trade union delegation composed of the following: S.A. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU; V.M. Mishin, G.F. Sukhoruchenkova, and G.I. Yanayev, secretaries of the AUCCTU; M.V. Ikharlova, chairman of the Textile and Light Industry Workers Union Central Committee; and B.A. Aberyanov, chief of the AUCCTU International Department.

The sides exchanged information on FRG and USSR trade union activity in the socioeconomic sphere. The AUCCTU delegation reported on trade union participation in the process of accelerating Soviet society's socioeconomic development and developing socialist democracy and on the tasks which they are resolving in improving labor organization, production management, and the accelerated development of the social sphere. The DGB delegation spoke about its organization's activity to defend the socioeconomic and democratic rights of working people and FRG trade unions in conditions of intensified confrontation with employers.

A detailed exchange of opinions on the world situation was conducted which revealed the coincidence or proximity of the sides' positions and views on a number of most important international issues. The AUCCTU and DGB delegations stressed the objective need to affirm in international affairs the new thinking oriented toward peace and rejecting wars, both nuclear and conventional. They support all steps designed to remove the threat of nuclear war and create an effective system of universal security. In this connection they advocated adopting the "double-zero" option," which may become an important step on the way to ending the arms race. This goal would be facilitated, in the opinion of both sides, by forbidding the militarization of space, eliminating all types of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and bacteriological weapons, immediately ending nuclear testing, and reducing conventional armaments and forces to a level of sufficiency necessary for defense.

The participants in the talks think that in today's situation trade unions, irrespective of their political and ideological differences, must collaborate in resolving the questions facing working people of the preservation of peace, protection of the environment, and the scientific and technical revolution and its social consequences, and also must exchange information about their stances and work. They expressed the intention to promote broad discussion of these and other problems which perturb working people, including at international level.

During the examination of bilateral Soviet-West German trade union links their positive development over the past years both at the level of trade union centers and in sectorial and regional trade union organizations was pointed out. The leaders of the AUCCTU and the DGB support this process, pointing out that it facilitates the strengthening of relations between the two countries in the spirit of benevolence and mutual advantage on the basis of the Moscow Treaty of 1970. Joint measures designed to deepen bilateral ties were agreed in principle.

The talks were held in a frank [otkrovennyy], friendly atmosphere and, in the opinion of their participants, were mutually useful.

During the period of their stay in the USSR the representatives of the West German trade unions visited industrial enterprises in Moscow and Novosibirsk and trade union sanatoriums and had meetings at the USSR State Committee For Labor and Social Problems and the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Economics, with scientists of the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Department, and also with the Novosibirsk trade union aktiv.

The chairman of the DGB invited the chairman of the AUCCTU to visit the FRG in 1988. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

SOVIET, FRG FIRMS SIGN JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENTS

LD062015 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS -- More than 30 West German firms, both large and small, have signed agreements on forming joint ventures with Soviet organisations, a TASS correspondent was told at the State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The latter are primarily interested in the fields where West German manufacturers are traditionally strong: machine tools, road and building machinery, fertilisers, medical and stomatologic equipment and footwear. The USSR and the FRG believe that an agreement between the two countries on mutual protection of investment will help boost this form of business cooperation. The talks on this issue are under way.

The firm Heinemann and Moscow's Ordzhonikidze plant have already signed basic instruments on creating a joint enterprise to manufacture machining centres, robots and flexible production modules.

The USSR regards as promising joint projects with such firms as Bayer (fungicides and insecticides), Mineralol Rohstoff (semifinished plastic and artificial fibre) and ASB/BUDE (procession of peat into fertiliser).

The Federal Republic of Germany is the largest trading partner of the USSR among industrialised nations of the west. "We are already using the potential of simple barter rather extensively. Therefore, many West German businessmen see in joint enterprises an additional possibility for expanding trade and economic cooperation with the USSR. The idea of a joint venture is based on the community of interests and, consequently, great trust. One can say that joint ventures are a key to long-term cooperation," said Jurgen Sengera, a member of the board of Westdeutsche Landesbank. This bank intends to take a major part in financing the new form of business cooperation between the USSR and the FRG.

USSR-GREEK TALKS END; PRODUCE 'GOOD RESULT'

LD301718 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 30 TASS -- Three-day Soviet-Greek consultations on a wide range of international issues and U.N. activity ended today at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Questions discussed during the consultations included an agenda for the forthcoming 42nd session of the U.N. General Assembly. The Greek delegation spoke in favour of the initiative by the USSR and other socialist countries to start an extensive international dialogue on forming an all-embracing system of international peace and security. The Soviet side highly assessed the role of Greek policy as a positive factor in improving international climate and in the struggle to remove the nuclear threat.

The Greek delegation, led by Andreas Metaxas [name as received], director of the department of international organisations and conferences, was received by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy. The consultations produced a good result and passed in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere.

PRAVDA SUMMARIZES DECISIONS OF PCI PLENUM

PM061331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "End of Plenum"]

[Text] Rome, 31 Jul -- A plenum of the Italian Communist Party [PCI] Central Committee and Central Control Commission has ended in the Italian capital. Its participants adopted a resolution approving the report "The PCI's Position and Initiatives at the New Political Stage," delivered at the plenum by PCI Secretary General Alessandro Natta.

The PCI Central Committee and Central Control Commission confirmed the report's negative assessment of ways to settle the government crisis and of the new cabinet's program presented by Christian Democrat Giovanni Giuseppe Goria. The PCI, the resolution points out, will continue its opposition in parliament and on a national scale in order to defend the vital interests of the people's masses.

In accordance with a proposal by PCI Secretary General A. Natta, the plenum participants examined questions connected with the PCI's cadre policy and organizational structure.

In accordance with the plenum decisions, Paolo Bufalini, chairman of the PCI Central Control Commission, is leaving that post in order to tackle in earnest questions of foreign policy and the work of the corresponding PCI Central Committee commission. He was coopted onto the party's Central Committee and confirmed in the post of member of the PCI Directorate. The PCI Central Control Commission agreed with a proposal to elect Gian Carlo Pajetta as its chairman.

The plenum adopted a decision to set up the party's program department to prepare for and hold a PCI program conference and defined its composition.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CRITICIZES TURKISH SDI INVOLVEMENT

LD050932 Moscow TASS in English 0912 GMT 5 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 5 TASS -- Demonstrating importunate "concern" for Turkey's security in the face of an alleged Soviet threat, Washington is out to secure that country's involvement in its plans to militarize outer space at all costs, the Soviet army newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA said today.

It quoted Gerold Yonas, a deputy director of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) organization, as telling the Turkish newspaper CUMHURIYET that "some ground-based facilities deployed in Turkey under the 'Star Wars' program could provide a reliable shield in the path of Soviet missiles".

Edward Teller, one of the architects of the SDI project, was even more outspoken about U.S. plans to use Turkish territory in its militarist preparations in March 1986 when he said that if the United States was able to set up four laser stations in Turkey, where there were many clear days and the atmosphere was transparent, that country would be the most important for fighting "Star Wars".

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA said Turkey itself had supported President Reagan's position on the "Star Wars" program from the very beginning.

Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu way back in November 1985 said bluntly that SDI represented "global technological progress", while countries failing to take part in it would shoulder grave responsibility. He added that "Turkey should necessarily get its share and make its contribution".

"U.S. attempts, which, it is clear, Turkish authorities do not object to, to use the territory of Turkey in the interest of realizing the SDI program and also possibly for deploying the ABM system's components there in the future are extremely dangerous and a source of concern both for the Soviet public and for the Turkish public.

"It is perfectly obvious that by joining SDI, Turkey would assume responsibility for the dangerous consequences of American plans to put weapons in outer space," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA said.

"Any support by Turkey of the SDI program, the more so involvement in it in any form, can only be seen in the Soviet Union as direct assistance to the plans jeopardizing peace and international security," it added.

IZVESTIYA QUESTIONS TURKISH, PAKISTANI MANEUVERS

LD072252 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 7 Aug (TASS) -- Naval maneuvers by Turkey and Pakistan commence on Saturday in the Aegean sea, the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes today. Destroyers and submarines of both countries plus Turkish auxiliary vessels and aircraft will be put into operation in the exercises, which will last for 2 weeks, REUTER reported.

The short announcement of maneuvers of, let us say, such an unusual nature which are for the first time forthcoming, leaves unanswered however a whole number of vital questions. For example, what are the aims of the exercises and the participation in them of a state which is far from being of the Mediterranean -- namely Pakistan? Who will play the role of the imagined enemy? Why are the maneuvers being held precisely now, when the feverish naval activity of the United States (and indeed of some NATO allies involved in it) has already raised the temperature of the situation in the Persian Gulf region and the extensive region adjoining it to a critical degree? And are not the planned joint Pakistani-Turkish exercises an indication of the desire of certain circles to revive some semblence of the CENTO military bloc which fell apart in 1979? One could lengthen the list of questions, the newspaper IZVESTIYA stresses. But even without answers to them it is clear: these maneuvers accord least of all with the code name "Friendship-87" which has been ascribed to them.

BELGIAN PARTY DELEGATION RECEIVED BY TOLKUNOV

PM030911 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Mutual Understanding and Cooperation"]

[Text] On 24 July L. N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and chairman of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, received a delegation from the Belgian Chamber of Representatives Flemish Party of Liberty and Progress [PVV] group, headed by E. Beysen [name as published], chairman of the group and deputy chairman of the parliament's Foreign Affairs Commission.

The party is a member of the government coalition and a member of the liberal international. Recently the party put forward a memorandum about European security policy in which it expressed concern at the fate of detente and disarmament. This is the first visit by an official party delegation to the USSR.

A detailed conversation took place between L.N. Tolkunov and the members of the delegation on ways to reduce tension in Europe and in the world.

The delegation expressed approval of M.S. Gorbachev's proposals with respect to a global "zero option" on medium-range missiles. In the visitors' opinion, this will facilitate the removal of the remaining obstacles to achieving accords in Geneva. The delegation advocated that, along with advancing the talks in Geneva on questions of nuclear and space armaments, it would be opportune to deal with the question of radically reducing the conventional armaments of the opposing military alliances in Europe.

The party, the Belgian parliamentarians noted, proceeds from the assumption that a lower level of arms conforms with the vital interests of all countries in Europe.

The Soviet side noted the coincidence of a number of the ideas expressed by the Belgian PVV with Soviet ideas on ways to resolve problems of European security. The consolidation of stability and security can only be achieved in consolidation of stability and security can only be achieved in conditions of deep cuts in armed forces. This process can be begun with the immediate elimination of medium-range and operation and tactical missiles in Europe. The visitors' attention was drawn to socialist countries' peace-loving proposals, including those put forward at the meetings of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee in Budapest and Berlin, and also the strictly defensive nature of Warsaw Pact military doctrine.

It was noted that the Soviet Union, putting forward the task of reducing the levels of military confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, intends to reduce its arsenals to the limits necessary for resolving defensive tasks alone. This presupposes withdrawing from the zone in which NATO and the Warsaw Pact are in direct contact the most dangerous offensive types of weapons. The visitors displayed great interest in the Warsaw Pact proposal to hold consultations between experts from both sides with the aim of comparing NATO and Warsaw Pact military doctrine.

The Belgian PVV, the delegation members stressed, will continue to seek to promote the cause of detente and cooperation in Europe.

The Belgian delegation showed great interest in the progress of restructuring in all spheres of life of Soviet society and in the processes of democratization and the development of glasnost in the USSR. They favored the development of future Belgian-Soviet relations.

The delegation, which is in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation, had meetings and conversations at the CPSU Central Committee International Department, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and academic institutes.

AUCCTU CHAIRMAN MEETS ICELAND TRADE UNION LEADER

PM031115 Moscow TRUD in Russian 2 Aug 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Meeting in Palace of Labor"]

[Text] On 1 August a meeting took place in the Palace of Labor between AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev and A. Stefansson, chairman of the Association of Icelandic Trade Unions.

During the talk the leaders of the trade union centers discussed the situation in the European trade union movement, paying special attention to the need to further develop cooperation between the trade unions of East and West. It was noted that recent contacts between the leadership of the AUCCTU and the trade union associations of the North European countries have helped to create the necessary conditions for the further consolidation of ties with the trade unions of the region.

Great attention was paid to international questions because the sides are deeply convinced that ensuring stable peace and security is a very important condition for the successful solution of the problems facing the trade unions in all other fields.

The leaders of the AUCCTU and the Association of Icelandic Trade Unions stressed that the summit meeting in Reykjavik was a major step toward achieving stable peace. This meeting generated hope and helped to activate all peace-loving forces.

The sides drew attention to the importance of constant contacts with a view to the mutual exchange of information and opinions, which will make it possible to consolidate trust and mutual understanding -- the necessary conditions for the consolidation of peace. AUCCTU Secretary G.I. Yanayev and B.A. Averyanov, chief of the AUCCTU international section, took part in the conversation on the Soviet side.

PRAVDA REPORTS GORBACHEV RAMENSKIY RAYON VISIT

PM061349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 87 Second Edition pp 1-2

[TASS report: "Restructuring Is Measured by Deeds; M.S. Gorbachev's Meeting With Rural Workers in the Moscow Region"]

[Text] M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited the "Ramenskiy" Agro-Industrial Combine in Moscow Oblast 5 August. Eighteen kolkhozes and sovkhozes, a meat combine, a dairy plant, a food combine, and a construction trust -- 53 of the rayon's enterprises in all -- have pooled their efforts and resources in a single complex for the sake of accomplishing an important social task whose priority was stressed by the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum. The Food Program was the main theme in M.S. Gorbachev's conversations with the rural workers.

The first stop and businesslike conversation with people was not at the farm center but in the fields, where early potatoes were being dug up. This crop is grown here using intensive techniques from the cultivation of stock seeds to the lifting of tubers. The people of Ramenskiy Rayon have even become pioneers in the system of produce sales -- they have concluded and are precisely carrying out direct contracts with trade organizations and are selling potatoes without transshipment while still fresh and redolent of the Moscow region soil....

The rayon's leading potato farmers work at the "Zavorovo" Sovkhoz. Seed potatoes are grown here by N.P. Babarykin's intensive labor link. In all there are four people in the link: Nikolay Pavlovich's two sons -- Vyacheslav and Alexsandr -- and Viktor Ivanovich Bukin and his son Viktor. This amiable quintet last year earned the sovkhoz R1 million in profit.

"Greetings, guardsmen," Mikhail Sergeyevich addressed the machine operators -- the inventors of the "Zavorovo technique" that is well known in the country. "I have many questions to ask you, but I will start with a simple everyday one. What is your mood like?"

"It is good, businesslike."

M.S. Gorbachev: "Look, I keep hearing the same reply: fine, normal, excellent. There are always problems. Currently we have plenty. If there were no problems you and I would not be undertaking great deeds. Nonetheless, I want to start our conversation with everyday life and the facilities available to people: Is your settlement old-fashioned or modern?

V. Babarykin: It used to be old-fashioned but is now modern, well-equipped, and growing apace.

M.S. Gorbachev: Do the young people like the high-rise blocks?

A. Babarykin: Of course, they want to get an apartment with gas and hot water....

M.S. Gorbachev: But clearly the farm center's growth is being delayed. Probably young people initially want to get an apartment and set themselves up, but the time comes, when they want and to settle down have children and their view of everyday life changes. There is little land in the Moscow area: Do you prevent people from building places themselves because of the cost involved?

N.P. Prokhorikhin, sovkhoz director: No, we are building more and more homestead-type houses each year. Villagers build 85 houses a year themselves.

M.S. Gorbachev: When reference is made to land shortages you can understand Muscovites, for instance, saying this. As for other areas, our view is that people should not get carried away with high-rise construction in the countryside. Homes are people's lives and affect people's characters. We are even thinking about extending credit repayment periods so as to strengthen rural families' budgets.

Mikhail Sergeyevich asked the machine operators how they heat their homes and whether schooling is available. They replied that there is a district heating system in the settlement; gas pipes are being laid; the children have a good school; and there is a kindergarten, club, and trading center. The people are satisfied.

M.S. Gorbachev: But we are not very satisfied. Letters are sent to the party Central Committee and the government. People say that there are shortages of sugar, for instance, and supplies are sometimes interrupted. The picture is probably the same with you. This is what I will say to you, and let correspondents report it nationwide. We now consume almost 45 kg of sugar per person per year. Physicians consider 35 kg to be the norm. This means that we eat 10 kg of sugar over and above the norm. When it is said that there is no sugar it is easy to think that there indeed is a shortage. But you know the reason for the interruptions in supply.

Let us ask each other honestly: Is it not time to resolutely put a stop to moonshining? We have beefed up the measures taken against moonshiners, but, if necessary, we will take even stricter measures against people who destroy everything good and -- this is the main thing -- get each other drunk; we know where their place should be -- back in the days of the dinosaurs .... (Laughter). Just look at how much good has been done since we started throttling this terrible problem of drunkenness. Hundreds of thousands of people's lives have been saved, there are fewer accidents at work, productivity is rising, and there is more order. Can we really abandon this path?

There is no need to introduce a no-alcohol law in Babarykin's link, a spirit has been created there of a strong workshop living by the laws of the worker's conscience. The link has been working with intensive technique for 5 years now, they have taken charge of 270 hectares.

M.S. Gorbachev: I can see you have good experience. But do you feel completely in control of the work?

N.P. Babarykin: Of course, Mikhail Sergeyevich. Whereas in the past we might have been taken away to do another job, now nobody will take us away from the job until we have collected the seed tubers.

M.S. Gorbachev: Yes, you have been given a responsible job. If there are no good seeds, then the potatoes will suffer. Do you receive in full everything you earn? Everything people earn should be given them. But what we cannot allow is people trying to obtain on the side, so to speak, what they have not earned.

What about going further with contracts, that is, leasing your land and fixed capital? Your land and your equipment. You are now working on potatoes, then there will be cultivation of rows of corn, then you harvest grasses. The idea is to be genuine masters of the land allocated to you.

The conversation turned to intensive tuber cultivation techniques and the devices and implements manufactured in collaboration with the sovkhoz' scientific sector, where four candidates of science work. The team leader talked about how seed stock is being successfully saved, more efficient use made of fertilizer, and soil cultivation equipment improved. As a result the seed tuber yield here is twice the oblast average, while fertilizer use is almost halved by planting potatoes on ridges in double rows 140 cm apart.

M.S. Gorbachev: I can see that you now take everything into account. You are now agronomists, economists, and machine operators too. That is what we need.

Ridge techniques of row crop cultivation, which were borrowed from Estonian agronomists, have turned out to be every effective in the Moscow region's changeable weather. This year, V.N. Akatyev, chief of the sovhoz' row-crop production, explained, because of the late spring and damp summer we would have been left with no potatoes had we been using the old nonridge techniques.

But today the tubers are full-size and -- this is very important -- are dispatched clean every day to stores in the Moscow region and the capital. M.S. Gorbachev crossed straight into a plowed field to meet the potato-digging combine. A row of women was walking behind the combine picking up the tubers the machine missed. After a few minutes the combine operator turned off the engine.

Addressing the women, Mikhail Sergeyevich said:

"I am particularly interested in talking with you: When you listen to the men there are many things you do not find out about life. You have more worries...."

There was a frank and detailed conversation about village life and women's concerns in the home. Mikhail Sergeyevich asked whether they had time to work their homestead plots. How many cottages had been built on the basis of deferred payment? Did many sovkhoz workers keep cows, hogs, or poultry? Is it easy to obtain feed for them?

Yes, unfortunately, most workers still go to the store for their milk, while their coats and clothes are made in the capital rather than on the sovkhoz.

M.S. Gorbachev: Can the farm leader really not set aside one small house as a workshop? When you ask all these questions there is nothing mysterious about it. After all, it is nothing extraordinary. It is elementary: Where is the house to be repaired, where can construction materials be obtained? This is real life. Where can fuel be obtained? Soviets must tackle this. Many of them have gotten out of the work habit. They follow the party organs, while the party organs often do not tackle their own work and keep others -- economic managers -- from doing their jobs. Today everyone must be brought strictly to account.

M.S. Gorbachev was cordially welcomed by the inhabitants of the farm center at the "Borets" Kolkhoz. A frank conversation was immediately struck up.

M.S. Gorbachev: I can see that you have a good settlement. There are well-tended gardens and neat houses. I like that. When people look after their homes they are diligent in their work too. When there is no order at home, then things will not go smoothly at work either. I have known about your farm for a long time. You know how to work. [paragraph continues]

The whole country knows about the "Borets" Livestock Breeding Center. So, thank you for your work. The fact that you live for your work is also good. That is how it should be. People who know how to work and do a great deal should also live well. It is bad when you see people swinging the lead but aspiring to some kind of special ostentation or finery. That is when the question of dealing with such people arises. The people can always spot more clearly those who are starting to divorce themselves from the collective and society.

There are now many good farms in Moscow Oblast. It is gaining strength and increasing its milk production. Potatoes and milk are important indicators. But more concern must be given to the development of the services sphere, the highway network, and consumer service establishments. In this respect, Moscow Oblast even lags behind the average indicators for Russia. There are many problems in the capital's oblast. A resolution aimed at helping it -- particularly in construction -- is currently being prepared, and the Moscow region will have to be brought up to the mark in the next 5-year plan.

Voice: Mikhail Sergeyevich! We all support restructuring here!

M.S. Gorbachev: Yes, I can see that! I see what you have done. That is what is needed today. We must talk less about restructuring and do more for it. That is the main thing now....

We need more order, more respect for one another, more conscientiousness and honesty. It is necessary to live according to one's conscience. It is good that you understand, that you are giving heart and mind to it. There is a policy, there is a government fighting for this policy, there is a people who share this policy. This is the main thing, comrades. All the rest goes into the pot and is boiled up. It is boiled up, melted down, and restructuring results, and the outcome will be fine.

Voice: The main thing, Mikhail Sergeyevich, is the struggle for peace.

M.S. Gorbachev: Do you feel we are doing a great deal in that area too?

Voices: Yes, we can see that, we know that well enough.

M.S. Gorbachev: It is not only our people who realize that it is necessary to halt the arms race and preserve peace. People and workers in all countries realize it. In capitalist and in developing countries, everywhere they realize it. This is the foundation we base our policy on -- it is in the interests of our own and all other peoples.

Then M.S. Gorbachev went to the "Borets" Kolkhoz labor glory museum, founded in 1931, and met with veterans of the farm.

M.S. Gorbachev addressed A.P. Uskova, kolkhoz veteran and participant in the Great Patriotic War:

"How is your glorious generation getting on, what are they thinking?"

A.P. Uskova: We want to do what work we can; I retired this year, and my life has been such that I do not want to get left behind.

M.S. Gorbachev: This is our veterans' strength -- patriotism, conscientiousness. Young people must know this.

Voices: We know it!

M.S. Gorbachev had a cordial conversation with the kolkhoz' first Communist, P.P. Zvereva. She joined the party in 1939 and was secretary of the farm party organization for 18 years.

In a field where they were harvesting grain crops M.S. Gorbachev talked with combine operators, specialists, and scientists about how to make the best use of scientific developments in agriculture and improve equipment for the countryside. It is these areas that hold the main reserves for improving field productivity. Special attention was paid to the need to prevent losses during harvesting.

After looking around the rayon pedigree livestock and poultry exhibition M.S. Gorbachev met with the stockraising workers.

"Have you had a collective contract for long?" he asked the workers of the Starnikovskaya livestock unit.

Voices: This is the 2d month. We are just starting.

M.S. Gorbachev: You must have spent a long time preparing and discussing. Do you all agree?

Voices: Of course we agree! We spent a long time in consultation. This is our 2d month working in the new way, and the feeling is that the collective is approaching its duties more responsibly. Things are better.

M.S. Gorbachev: Amazing things happen when people are faced with a situation where they are responsible for everything. You get quite different results, and sometimes you would not recognize a person. The operation changes, attitudes change, results change. It happens more quickly in a small collective. That is why family contracts have done well. But in a big collective like yours the economic accountability contract is a big step. You are now in charge of a big operation.

Voice: We used to depend a lot on the market. We took potatoes and cabbages there -- to make money. Now we earn money at the unit, and we order products from the kolkhoz for ourselves and for our operation, whatever we need. We keep livestock, chickens, anything. We have money too. We are well paid, we want to switch to two-shift work, then it will be easier to manage time and get on with work at home.

M.S. Gorbachev: Correct. It has been a good move for you. It means that young people will be more eager to go into livestock raising. Do you know what I like? The fact that you have changed over to the contract system knowing what you are about, knowing what is what, seeing what your task is, and appreciating what the specialists have to do, what the administration has to do and what obligations it has to you. That is really being in charge.

A person will always be upset when his opinion is not sought, when he is regarded merely as part of the workforce and is not valued as a person and citizen. But the collective contract and democracy which is associated with it -- this is what supports people. People in our society want to participate in everything, and that is a good thing.

The Anikins, the Sosenkins, and the Smirnovs' link talked about their family contract work. Despite the comparatively short time they have been on it, things are working out pretty well for these collectives. The main thing is that the people believe in themselves and they are hard at work learning to manage in the new way, more efficiently, to the greater benefit of society and themselves.

M.S. Gorbachev wanted details of the work organization, its initial results, and the earnings of the contract participants.

At the "Borets" Kolkhoz farm center M.S. Gorbachev looked at a street of new homestead-type houses. They are being built using the farm's own resources and the residents only pay rent. The street is soon to be extended, the workers said. The farm has the funds to do this. It just needs to improve the construction materials situation.

M.S. Gorbachev was invited into the Kostikovs' home.

In the afternoon the general secretary visited the "Pokmoskovnyy" Sovkhoz. He examined the system of waste-free harvesting machinery and bulk vegetable transportation technology at the product processing and packaging shop.

Then there was a meeting with the leaders of the farms, party committee secretaries, and workers of the "Ramenskiy" Agro-Industrial Complex. It was addressed by K.B. Kunitskiy, general director for the complex; N.Ye. Chernyakov, chairman of the "Put Lenina" Kolkhoz; A.N. Konstantinov, secretary of the "Leninets" Kolkhoz party committee; N.N. Nikishin, director of the "Podmoskovnyy" Sovkhoz; and I.N. Stepnov, director of the instrument making plant.

The concluding speech was delivered by M.S. Gorbachev. He said:

Actually, comrades, I had no plans to make a specially prepared speech. In fact, we planned the trip with a view to mixing with one another and having a chat. And I can now say, comrades, as my brief trip to one rayon of Moscow Oblast -- Ramenskiy -- is nearly over, that I am very happy with the trip, with the meetings and conversations that have taken place in this brief time. I am happy above all because I have caught Ramenskiy Rayon -- its workers, cadres, and party organization -- on the move. On the move in the sense of thinking about the new tasks and the new demands that the times require of us all at this stage of radical restructuring, at the stage of practical changes.

This is perhaps the chief prerequisite for making restructuring a reality. Once people have started to think seriously and practically, expressing the accumulated ideas and hoping that these ideas may be useful, one can reckon that our policy, our restructuring line will not be just another campaign resulting in no particular changes.

We must appreciate, comrades, that every year, every day has enormous significance for the country's destiny. In fact, the entire course of our society's development has brought us to a situation where radical restructuring is necessary. You will not solve the problem by small steps, half-measures, and yet more additional measures.

Today, in my opinion, the biggest achievement of the party and society is the fact that we appreciate all this. At the Central Committee we have the belief that both the people and the party and our cadres realize that restructuring is no fanciful activity but a vitally important, essential one and it is necessary to take the irreversible step onto the path of restructuring and proceed firmly along that road. [paragraph continues]

If anyone, perhaps even someone sitting in this hall, is still thinking that one must wait and see, that there have been reorganizers before, that, perhaps, another reorganizing itch has taken hold in our society, including the country's political leadership, I can assure them that such notions are mistaken. No, our society has arrived at restructuring through bitter experience; it has approached it realistically. If we lose time we will lose a great deal.

That is the first thing. Now we are talking and looking each other in the face, and I want to say again -- no vacillating, we must resolutely restructure ourselves and restructure ourselves in every way. We know that there are forces in our society which are capable of taking responsibility for the restructuring, of shouldering that burden. We are confident that our society will accomplish the tasks of restructuring if it purges itself and rids itself of much, first and foremost the old way of thinking, the old approaches. So let us renew ourselves. Renewal begins with ourselves. That is why I say that everything must begin with the party, with the leading cadres. That is the key question, comrades. If somewhere a party organization -- oblast, rayon, or primary -- is behind, our cause is thereby damaged. Therefore, it is necessary to understand this clearly and to speak about it frankly, on the basis of the highest interests of society and the people, and embark resolutely on the path of restructuring. Meeting people on the sovkhozes and kolkhozes, I have realized that they need the restructuring. Together we must transfer this policy to the plane of practical solutions, and find specific answers as to what everyone should do at his post -- at the kolkhoz, sovkhoz, or enterprise -- and in what way everyone should give more. People are morally and psychologically prepared for this. That is a good basis for our cadres' work, for the party organizations. Therefore, if things are not progressing somewhere, that is the fault of the party organization, the fault of the leading cadres. This too must be said frankly, in the party fashion. If some people cannot join in the restructuring, they should make way for others.

If you ask me: Is it necessary to replace all the cadres in order to implement the restructuring? No. I think that we, our people and our cadres, must accomplish the tasks of the restructuring. But that does not exclude the possibility that there could be a reshuffle in the upper and middle echelons and at farm level, that there will be an influx of fresh forces. But on the whole these are the cadres with whom we must accomplish the task of restructuring. But apart from that, there is also a natural process: There are those who have already reached the end of their labor activity, which is understandable. Or some people simply lack the strength to take on new tasks. That is understandable too, and there is no need to dramatize the situation. Every time makes its own demands and has its own cadres, its own approaches. Anyone who is capable of restructuring and following these new paths, using new approaches to political, organizational, and ideological work, should work and enjoy the support of workers and party organizations. It seems to me that most of our cadres are ready for this. Perhaps in different ways: One person may pick things up quickly, another may need more time to think. In principle we proceed on the basis that most of our cadres will accomplish these tasks. We do not intend to break our cadres, our people. At the same time, we cannot tolerate it if everything continues as before, without acceleration, without changing gear.

It made a strong impression on me to find that people have grasped the meaning of the restructuring with the people's characteristic sensitivity. This is the main impression I will take away from today's meeting.

After all, comrades, if the mood is not there, you cannot invent it, however much you try to encourage people. You cannot deceive people. And our people's mood now is fertile soil. Therefore, the party organizations and leading cadres must not waste time. Progress must be made in all the processes of the restructuring.

What are its main components? First: We must maintain the atmosphere of openness, of discussing every question, however difficult, with the people and tackling it together with them. This requires democratization, real participation by our people. That is why we say that the basis of restructuring is democratization. This means different methods of work in the party organs, the national economy, and all the labor collectives. Such new forms as the new economic management machinery, the election of leaders, and councils of collectives at team level, shop level, and enterprise level have already found legitimate applications. From the example of the collectives of contract and family livestock units, you have probably seen how our people have, as it turns out, been longing and how they want not simply to earn more -- that desire exists, understandably -- but to earn it honestly. They do not want to rob the state; they want to earn. Is that not a socialist desire? It is entirely socialist, and therefore there should be no restrictions -- everything that a person earns should be given to him. Nobody should be allowed to receive what he has not earned. That is what socialism is.

One woman says: At one time, if you were on sick leave with a doctor's note, you thanked heaven for it. You might even ask for another note. But now, she says, if your child is sick or you have a doctor's note yourself, the thought keeps nagging at you, how are things going back there? You simply have no patience, a day or two passes, and you want to go back to work as soon as you can. These are the concerns that are appearing now, these are the thoughts that are arising. This is very important, comrades. People have to have an interest, so that the collective becomes stable, so that people are competent and skilled, so that everyone knows each other. This alone can ensure both high productivity and quality. All this creates a new atmosphere. It must be maintained through democracy, through the new economic machinery, through people's involvement in the planning process itself, in the organization of production. That is what we need, that is what stimulates labor, strengthens discipline and conscientiousness, increased productivity, and combines the interests of the kolkhoz, the sovkhoz, and society with personal interest. If personal interests are violated, nothing comes of it, and society is the loser. But if everything goes only into increasing wages, and the country gains nothing from it, then the country loses, and the people will feel that they are the losers too. Therefore, it is necessary to find a balance of interests, and we find it through the new machinery, through the forms of democracy -- that is the first thing, through the atmosphere of glasnost, through people's involvement in all the processes of restructuring. Work is hard at the moment. We all sometimes have to study the rudiments of democracy. Now we have seen what real democracy is. Some people have been frightened, some people have started to say: Where are we going, how will it end? But people who think in that way are forgetting the most important thing, that people always have common sense. In some places it may turn out that group interests and mutual protection make themselves felt, but in principle everyone wants the team, shop, enterprises, kolkhoz, or sovkhoz to be headed by reliable leaders who are intelligent and capable of leading, of opening up prospects for improving life. Our people understand this, and they have no need of nice, kind leaders. No, they need talented, attentive people who understand the importance of work, but people who are also exacting, exacting in a fair way. Democracy is a great thing.

The only thing is not to expect a kind of uncle to impose order in the collective for you, but to do it yourselves. Use the democratic forms now. This applies to leaders too, and especially to the party organizations. The first thing that must be ensured is the atmosphere, which should work for the restructuring and make people socially active and responsible.

Second. People sometimes say that there is a shortage of this, that, or the other. Today, in an entire day, I have not heard a single unjustified request. All the requests are justified and serious, people are having nothing to do with trivia. This too indicates our people's maturity. But all the same, although we have many unresolved questions and many shortages -- of machinery, especially for the food industry and construction machinery, and materials, all that is so -- but comrades, in order not to go astray, it is necessary to restructure ourselves in this respect too, and to adopt the correct positions.

From now on, the question of output comes to the fore. Yes, there are still problems to be tackled. A complete range of machines must be created for each crop: for carrots, for onions, for celery, and so forth. But even today the main question is output. Even today a vast potential has been created in the countryside, and it must work in a different way than before. Coming to the fore are the new mechanism in the countryside, new forms of organization, and new forms of incentives making it possible to combine society's interests and people's personal interests.

Take, for instance, the Soldatovs' family livestock unit. In a year it has yielded an extra 1,800 kg of milk. Any why? People's interest came into play, they calculated everything and defined the duties of the leadership and their own duties and norms.

Or take another example of practical experience from the Kuban. There all the land is plowed and in use. At a kolkhoz in Timashevskiy Rayon which we visited sunflower yields totaled 23 quintals per hectare, while a family link obtained 35 quintals. On the same land, with the same amount of rain, with the same fertilizers and seeds, and the same machinery. Similar examples exist in the cultivation of cotton. In a rayon in Pskov Oblast they switched to the family and collective contract and in this way with the same number of people they completed the sowing in a shorter time and to a high standard.

It is true, comrades, that many questions affecting agriculture remain, its base must be consolidated, and we have agreed in the Politburo to prepare a new Central Committee plenum for the purpose of putting the finishing touches to agrarian policy, taking into account the new situation and the accumulated experience. Obviously, we will deal with all the questions -- social questions, questions of the material base, and other questions; we will make sure that the agro-industrial complex is truly economically integrated into the national economic complex. We will bear in mind wholesale price changes so as to ensure that the kolkhoz and sovkhoz income is not reduced to nothing. All this has to be thought through. However, comrades, remember the main thing -- it is a question of new methods of management. Get down to this work. Today, when we were talking to people, a team leader -- he works in the construction industry -- said that mangers and specialists are not tackling the collective contract very actively. Leaders must act differently, they must give all the workers their full attention and wholeheartedly accept democracy and the new mechanisms.

You must bear in mind that whoever wastes time will be left behind. People must not, of course, be forced into the collective contract. A great deal remains to be done in this area; it is necessary to involve specialists and economists and to consult people. When people see that the leadership of the kolkhoz or sovkhoz and the party bureau are genuinely committed, they will be willing to accept the contract. But it must not be done because it is fashionable, to make the records look good or for appearance sake, along the lines of: Do you have a contract? Is there a cooperative in the service sphere? No? What is the matter with you? Why not? Are you perhaps opposed to party decisions? This is old talk. These are worn out methods. This is no way to act now. It is necessary to show real concern and to switch to new methods of management and stimulation.

We now have large-scale kolkhozes and sovkhozes, especially in other parts of the country. Within them there are large teams, sections, and complexes. They have grown somewhat detached from the land. This is also reflected in their end results. Now, within the framework of these kolkhozes and sovkhozes, by means of collective, family, or lease contracts, we must establish the link with people's personal interest. By achieving this we will combine the advantages of large-scale collective farming with people's personal interest in their work. This is what is needed. Acting in this way we can get the country there within 2-3 years. It is only necessary to believe in this and to work hard, using your brain. Then everything will be fine.

Of course, people in the countryside must be well provided for. If these questions are resolved, the labor force will stabilize. What people are interested in is not so much how fast their wages are rising but rather how the countryside is changing, how production is changing, how everyday working conditions are changing, how the nature of labor itself is changing. If we can achieve this, even young people will be interested in kolkhoz and sovkhoz production and be prepared to devote to this production their minds, their education, and their receptiveness to new developments, and then technical progress will advance even further.

What is needed now to tackle and resolve all this? Initiative, comrades, independence, responsibility, and willingness to take a risk. Well, take a risk, take the responsibility, act, pool your efforts in a cooperative. Here you have vast opportunities, especially within the framework of the association.

This means that what is needed is economic initiative. Economic enterprise. Independence. Do not be afraid to take a risk. Find unorthodox solutions.

The farms I visited and the people I talked to are nonetheless essentially leading farms. While I was chatting to people a woman said to me: Mikhail Sergeyevich, you should also go out to the boondocks. I understood what she was hinting at. That not everything in Moscow Oblast is just like here, that not everything is like Ramenskiy Rayon. But I am well aware that this is the case. I know that the situation is quite different in the west, and the northwest, and the north, not only there. Even near Moscow there are weak farms, especially in terms of their social development and the formation of stable collectives, hence their economic and other results.

However, it is good that the trend toward improvement is actively developing in the Moscow region. An increasing number of farms are gathering strength, joining the ranks of stable profitable farms, mastering industrial techniques, seeking new approaches, engaging in construction, restoring neglected villages, attending to roads. However, unfortunately, this is still only the beginning.

It is true that not just villages but also Moscow Oblast cities are at the bottom of the list of RSFSR oblasts for many indicators of the development of the social sphere, trade, and consumer services; and this is the oblast around the country's capital. Of course, this is no good. But you yourselves must resolve these questions along the lines which we have discussed today.

Moscow Oblast needs serious restructuring, serious reconstruction, especially in the light and food industries. The entire social infrastructure needs major development. There is much work to be done here. However, the Moscow Oblast party organization has accumulated great potential and can accomplish these tasks.

Great differences exist here, the indicators are all over the place, side by side with leaders there are many mediocre performers and even laggards. Even getting everyone to turn out an average performance would mean progress. If you can approch the performance of the best farms you will have achieved a great deal. Three million tonnes of milk -- you must take this task as your target and work toward it. A million tonnes of vegetables are required now. A million tonnes of potatoes are required. We believe that the specialization of Moscow Oblast should not be changed. It is not a grain-growing area. It is a livestock raising and vegetable and potato growing region. This specialization must be further developed. The feed base must be developed. You must produce your own feed; at present you buy too much, around 50 percent.

I acquainted myself with the Zavorovo technique. Just take a look -- the same fertilizers, the same seeds. True, the people are different, the deployment of manpower and resouces is different, and the cultivation technique is different. How the land responded! In one go 450 quintals per hectare. At this rate, using this technology, we will be able to obtain the million tonnes of potatoes more quickly and to release some land for the cultivation of clover.

Or take a look at what crossbreeding with Holstein cattle has produced. It has made it possible over the last year or two to improve the herd and to achieve bigger milk yields.

It is necessary to strengthen the link between science and practice and to involve Moscow region scientific organizations in this so that they can help to swiftly advance Moscow region in terms of agrarian sector productivity. We will help you. But I, comrades, put my trust in you and the Moscow region Communists.

I would like to ask you, M.S. Gorbachev said in conclusion, to convey greetings from the Central Committee to the Communists and workers of Moscow region farms and wish them much success. We trust in you.

M.S. Gorbachev was accompanied on his trip to Ramenskiy Rayon by V.P. Nikonov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and V.K. Mesyats, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Obkom.

MOSCOW RIDICULES WESTERN REPORTING ON TATARS

LD072225 Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Our correspondent has been told in the Moscow City Council that practically all representatives of the Crimean Tatars who spent the past 2 weeks in Moscow have voluntarily left the capital and returned home. Radio Moscow's Viktor Ilyichev has contributed this commentary:

This marked the end of a fairly noisy campaign launched by some of the Crimean Tatars, who had come to Moscow claiming to restore their ethnic autonomy in the Crimea. A special commission headed by the president, Andrey Gromyko, which has been set up to consider the Tatar demands, can now calmly discuss the situation and take fair decisions. These decisions must be based on the actual state of things, that is, they must proceed from the facts that the Crimea's population today totals 2.5 million people of various nationalities. These decisions must also be in line with the traditional friendship between different ethnic groups living in the Soviet Union. It is this point that Andrey Gromyko stressed when receiving a group of Crimean Tatars.

A representative of the Crimean Tatars, a trade union activist, (Osman Adamanov) has said in an interview his people live as an equal among equals, together with the other Soviet ethnic groups, and that the main guiding light in resolving problems should be the friendship and neighborly relations of the peoples inhabiting the Crimea today. Another Crimean Tatar, writer (Shakir Silimev), maintains that the problem needs careful and balanced resolving. Most Crimean Tatars are satisfied with the fact that the commission headed by Andrey Gromyko is to look into it.

However, this course of events, which satisfies the majority of the Crimean Tatars, is not to the liking of their unbidden defenders from Western news media, and the Voice of America in the first place. Washington's official mouthpiece has adopted its favorite stance of a human rights' champion. It seems to be going out of its way in trying to fan a fire that has died out. The Voice of America has been bombarding the air with successive broadcasts, dealing with anything but the truth. Here, for one, is an American radio version concerning what is described as a forceful expulsion from Moscow of members of the so-called Initiative Group of the Crimean Tatar Ethnic Movement. The Voice of America mentions acts of violence, allegedly suffered by this group, and drunken policemen, who have nearly crippled one woman, and even a refusal by doctors to witness her injuries. This is the packet of horrors the American radio station has presented listeners with.

Meanwhile, we can take the full responsibility of assuring our audience that nothing of the kind has even occured. It is the usual vulgar misinformation, invented by United States experts of psychological war. We don't know whether they were assisted there by anybody of the extremist Crimean Tatars, wishing at any expense to disrupt the calm and objective consideration of the problem, or whether the whole story was thought out by professional American propagandists themselves, so they won't have to split their wages with anyone.

After all, it's another thing that matters; namely, that the Moscow militia, the city authorities, and Muscovites themselves showed maximum restraint in a complex and definitely unusual situation. They didn't submit to provocations either from some aggressive (?bawlers), from the number of Crimean Tatars, or from their painstaking defenders and instigators with correspondent cards and diplomatic passports of some Western countries. It's natural for any country to have the laws protecting public order and specifically the peace of citizens at night. But even when particularly noisy guests made their neighbors wake at night, and called the militia asking to restore order and calm down the troublemakers, even then the Order Protection Services resorted to no violence, but showed the best of restraint, trying to make the hooligans listen to reason. These are the facts, which are recognized by the Crimean Tatar representatives themselves. These facts cannot be disproved even by Washington's professional propagandists, fanning undue emotion.

CENTRAL STATISTIC ADMINISTRATION REORGANIZED

LD081647 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] We have just heard that the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has reorganized the country's Central Statistical Administration into the Union Republic State Committee of the USSR on Statistics. [Soyuzniy Respublikanskiy Gosudarstvennyy Komitet SSR po Statistike] Mikhail Antonovich Korolev, who had been heading the USSR Central Statistical Administration, has been appointed chairman.

KIRGHIZ SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM REPLACES CHAIRMAN

LD081548 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] A Kirghiz SSR Supreme Soviet session took place today. It considered the work of the Frunze town and Kara-Su Rayon soviets of people's representatives in accelerating social and economic development. The deputies also discussed the work of the republican People's Control Committee. The decisions adopted clarify ways to remove shortcomings.

In connection with his pensioned retirement due to poor health, Comrade Koshoyev has been released from his duties as the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman. Twice Hero of Socialist Labor Comrade Akhmatov, formerly senior shepherd at the 27-oy Partsyezd Kolkhoz, has been elected as chairman of Kirghiz SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The session was addressed by Comrade Masaliyev, first secretary of the Kirghiz Communist Party Central Committee.

PAPER SAYS GLASNOST PUBLICATION 'ROGUISH'

LD081440 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1334 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 8 Aug (TASS) -- The so-called independent publication GLASNOST, which recently appeared in Moscow, substitutes roguish demagoguery for true values, this week's newspaper VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA writes.

GLASNOST, in a preface declaring its support for the policy of restructuring, in fact turns everything upside down, notes the article entitled "Bawlers from the Gutter." The publishers are not focusing their close attention on that which is new in the life of the country and which has already been recognized by the world public, but on obsolete phenomena of the admittedly not very distant past.

The paper's correspondents had a meeting with Sergey Grigoryants, who calls himself the editor of GLASNOST. He also claims that it is not a dissident publication. As the newspaper notes, this diverges from reports by foreign "radio voices" publicizing the publication as produced by a group of dissidents for "testing the new policy of glasnost being pursued in the Soviet Union."

When the subject of Grigoryants' past was raised he turned from a hospitable host into a hysterical blackmailer, the article says. Answering the question of what made him so agitated, the authors adduce facts from criminal File No 1144/418 which is kept in the archives of Moscow City Court. It could be seen from this that "the editor of GLASNOST, a former political prisoner, as he calls himself, and a current dissident, as he is called abroad, had indulged also in criminal 'frolics' in the past. From spring 1971 until March 1974 Sergey Grigoryants engaged in large-scale speculation in art articles and on a business footing...Grigoryants received from these speculative deals a total sum of R12,275."

"We will leave the report on 'Soviet movement of political dissidents' on the REUTER correspondent's conscience. In fact, there is no such movement. There is the usual base speculation with the purpose of making political capital among western anti-Sovietists, gaining fame by any means, and wangling for themselves the title of 'justice fighter.'"

"There is an expression current among motorists about cars 'not making the bend.' This means a car skids, goes out of control, and hurtles into a ditch. Is not this the destiny awaiting Grigoryants and his crew? It is clear that they are 'not making the bend,'" the article concludes.

'GLASNOST Tests Glasnost'

PM071527 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 3 Aug 87 p 6

[Alex Milits report: "GLASNOST Tests Glasnost"]

[Text] A number of intellectuals in the Soviet Union are attempting in a new publication to test party chief Mikhail Gorbachev's glasnost, that is, his policy of openness. The periodcal is also called GLASNOST and has so far appeared three times.

The first issue was published in Moscow at the end of May. It was typewritten and only 18 cyclostyled copies were circulated. The following two issues were both produced in editions of 100, all of which have probably been read so much that they are falling to pieces given the great interest which the periodical has aroused.

GLASNOST's chief editor is a former political prisoner, Sergey Grigoryants. When the first issue was published he told a press conference:

"We will try to exploit the possibilities offered by glasnost but we do not want any confrontation with the authorities."

It remains to be seen whether this is possible, for Grigoryants has indicated that in future issues the periodical will deal with such controversial events as the recent protests in Moscow by Crimean Tatars and the demonstrations in Riga in mid-June.

Among those writing for the periodical are several well known dissidents, including Gleb Yakunin, Lev Timofeyev, Larisa Bogoraz, and Josif Begun. Initially the idea was to give GLASNOST offical status and place it under the censorship body, Glavlit. But now Girgoryants and his colleagues have changed their minds and clearly want to test the limitations of Gorbachev's reform policies.

In the first issue, which has now also appeared in the West, there is an introductory editorial declaration. This says among other things that "the feeling and the conviction that the country's and mankind's fate are being determined at the present time force us to seek our own road for participation in the chages that are beginning." The first steps along this road are clear, it also says. "We are starting to publish an information bulletin and an anthology [samlingsvolym] in which we will print material about the most important contemporary problems. Both publications are independent organs which aim to involve themselves in the work toward the development of democratic consciousness."

The periodical has a special discussion section. The first number initiates this section with Nobel prize winner Andrey Sakharov's reply to Spanish journalists and publishers who gave him the "Golden Moment" price for his telephone conversation with Gorbachev last year. It was this conversation which led to Sakharov's release and to the release of a number of other political prisoners. In his reply Sakharov raised among other things the Chernobyl accident and writes that mankind should not begin the rundown of nuclear power, which he describes as an important source of energy and less dangerous to the environment than coal and oil. But he proposed that for safety reasons nuclear power stations should be built 20-30 meters underground.

Other articles make it clear that Gorbachev's policy of glasnost has led to a situation in which discussion clubs, free seminars, and lecture series have mushroomed throughout the Soviet Union, but primarily in Moscow and Leningrad. The periodical reports debates from clubs like Pamyat in Moscow and the lectures which philosopher Pomerants has delivered on subjects like "The Tempo and Rhythm of the Historical Process" and "Dostoyevskiy's Life and Works." One club has debated as sensitive a problem as "The Roots of Bureaucracy in the Soviet Union."

An interesting resume of a seminar on peace and social research shows the scope of the increasingly open debate. On the subject of Gorbachev's proposed economic reforms the resume says that all changes within industry as a result of the Law on State Enterprises will only be effective if the market is able to influence prices. The absence of just such a system is an obstacle to the advantages which can come from partial independence for enterprises, budgeting, profits, and so on. Those who took part in this debate also voiced the view that the Soviet market has only functioned so far thanks to the black market mechanisms.

Another view was that in the field of light industry it ought to be possible to bring about a natural pricing mechanism through direct contacts between enterprises and stores and through the creation of competition among enterprises. According to this view it is probable that the supply of goods will improve as a result of Gorbachev's perestroyka, the policy of restructuring.

GLASNOST, which also reports the activities of the official and unofficial peace movements, is a sign that Gorbachev's policies have led to hectic activity among freethinking intellectuals in the Soviet Union. The mood is clearly something along the lines of: Write and publish quickly, while it is allowed. No one knows how long this will go on.

This haste can also be seen in the Writers' Union journal, which has said that recently many works have been printed without there having been time to polish texts properly.

NEW FOREIGN MINISTRY BULLETIN PUBLISHED

LD071236 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS -- The first issue of the "Bulletin of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR" was brought out. The aim of the new publication is to inform people about the Foreign Ministry's activity, press conferences and briefings at the Press Centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

The bulletin will also feature problematic articles on foreign policy issues, reference materials and documents on the history of Soviet diplomacy.

The first issue contains Mikhail Gorbachev's speech at the USSR Foreign Ministry on May 23, 1986, Eduard Shevardnadze's report at a conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry on May 3, 1987, and other materials.

The "Bulletin of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR" will appear twice a month.

'COSMOS 1871' TO REENTER EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE 10 AUG

LD091633 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS -- Artificial Earth satellite Cosmos-1871, next in the series, was launched in the Soviet Union on August 1, 1987. A report on its launching and the calculated orbit was published in the press on August 4, 1987.

The satellite carries on board scientific equipment designed to continue outer space exploration and a radio system for an accurate measurement of orbital elements, a radio telemetric system for transmitting back to earth data about the functioning of instruments and scientific equipment. The satellite weighs ten tons.

As the trajectory measurements and calculations of orbit of the satellite Cosmos-1871 have shown, it will enter the dense layers of the atmosphere and fall in the first half of August 10. The area of the scattering of separate parts is large and the possibility of damage on the Earth's surface is insignificant. The satellite Cosmos-1871 has no load constituting additional danger to life. The most probable area of its fall is the southern part of the Pacific near the Antarctic.

Annually, nearly 150 space objects launched by different countries cease to exist actively and thus enter the dense layers of the atmosphere, most of them burn down, and a part is scattered over the Earth's surface.

SOVIET-U.S. SPACE COOPERATION PLANS REPORTED

LD101023 Moscow TASS in English 0959 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS -- Soviet-U.S. cooperation in space biology and medicine will be continued on a Soviet biological satellite of the Cosmos series to be launched late next month, Yevgeniy Ilin, section head at the Soviet Public Health Ministry's Institute of medico-Biological Problems, said today. He made the announcement at a meeting where Soviet and foreign newsmen met with members of a Soviet-U.S. working group for space biology and medicine. During the satellite's 14 days in space, Professor Ilin said, experiments would be staged aboard to study the mechanical impact of weightlessness on vital processes in living organisms. He said the objects of study would include two rhesus macaque monkeys, ten rats and a wide spectrum of other living things -- from unicellulars to fish to amphibians.

Besides Soviet and U.S. scientists, the project will involve their colleagues from socialist countries, France and the European Space Agency.

Academician Oleg Gazenko, director of the Institute of Medico-Biological Problems, said the experiments had been discussed by the joint working group at its recent sittings in Nalchik, northern Caucasus, which had also dealt with the problems of future space flights, including safety, and extraterrestrial life.

The leader of the U.S. delegation, NASA representative Samuel Keller, expressed gratitude to Soviet colleagues for their constructive stand for developing cooperation. The success of the Nalchik meeting of the Soviet-U.S. working group, he said, would serve as a good example for other groups concerned with space studies for peaceful purposes.